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ARENS SUBMITS HIS RESIGNATION TO PROTEST CABINET DECISION ON THE LAVI

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Sept. 2 (JTA) -- Likud Minister-Without-Portfolio Moshe Arens (Herut) handed his resignation to Premier Yitzhak Shamir Wednesday night after a Likud ministerial caucus on the Lavi issue.

Even though the Likud Ministers resolved to "fight" last Sunday's Cabinet decision scrapping the Lavi project. Arens went ahead with his threatened resignation. He is understood to believe that the Likud Ministers' resolution was largely declarative and would not in fact lead to a re-vote in the Cabinet.

Labor Ministers, meanwhile, meeting separately, came out firmly against any attempt to procure a Cabinet re-vote. Labor sources said the party would resist any such effort by insisting that the issue go to the Inner Cabinet -- where, with Likud's Moshe Nissim, Minister of Finance, voting against the plane, the Lavi would once again be defeated.

Nissim did not attend the Likud ministerial caucus Wednesday evening at Shamir's home -- a clear indication of the strains between himself and his colleagues, all of whom voted against Sunday's Cabinet decision.

Sources close to Nissim repeated Wednesday that he would instantly resign his post if the Prime Minister sought to put pressure on him to change his position on the Lavi. Nissim himself has refused to address in public the possibility of his being pressured, or even dismissed, by Shamir. But he has continued spiritedly to defend his stance against the Lavi project, on both economic and defense-related grounds.

Reactions With The Likud

The Likud Ministers, in their resolution, claimed that the proposal put forward Sunday by Vice Premier Shimon Peres, which received a 13-12 vote in the Cabinet, had been "inadequately prepared."

Privately, Likud sources have attacked Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin for "feeding the Cabinet misleading information." This has been said in reaction to Rabin's impassioned defense, on television Monday night, of the Cabinet decision to stop the Lavi project and devote the same U.S. aid funds to other vital Israel Defense Force proposed projects.

Trade and Industry Minister Ariel Sharon told reporters after the Likud Ministers' caucus that their resolution would mean "finding ways of delaying implementation of the Cabinet decision . . . We can now see that the Cabinet decision was not based on firm grounds."

Sharon and Arens reportedly demanded at the caucus that Shamir dismiss Nissim and possibly "go to the country" over the Lavi issue. The Premier, however, is said to be firmly against early elections, and insiders say he is also opposed to trying to obtain a Cabinet re-vote on the Lavi, since success for the Likud would be unlikely.

SHAMIR: THE GOVERNMENT IS TRYING TO CREATE A MECHANISM INVOLVING ALL STRAMS OF JUDAISM TO EASE TENSIONS OVER WHO IS A JEW ISSUE

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Sept. 2 (JTA) -- Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir disclosed here Tuesday that the government is trying to create a "consulting mechanism" involving the various streams in Judaism, as a means of mitigating tensions over who is a Jew.

In a speech to the Seventh International Congress of Jewish Lawyers and Jurists, being held in Jerusalem, the Premier said this approach would not necessarily prevent further efforts to amend the Law of Return, but he hoped it could help underscore the factors that unite the Jewish people rather than the disputes and conflicts that divide them.

Aides to Shamir told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that he was especially interested that his words reach a broad Jewish audience in the diaspora. Excerpts from his speech follow.

Seeks Basis Of Cooperation

My hope as a Prime Minister is to find a basis of cooperation between all elements in Israel -- the Orthodox and the non-Orthodox.

A profound misunderstanding has emerged in respect to the conversion problem. Therefore, let me state clearly that nobody has ever questioned the validity of any Jew -- be he Orthodox, Conservative or Reform. There is simply no basis for the allegation that there are attempts to delegitimize any section of our people as a group or as individuals. Jews who are members of the Conservative movement or of the Reform movement and their children are warmly welcome in this country.

Questions have been raised -- and they are not uncharacteristic of Jewish history -- on the validity of some conversions. In my view, there has been considerable exaggeration on this point, and many of us would, for the time being, prefer not to have this subject raised at all.

Nevertheless, it is a fact that the Law of Return has, for 17 years, included a definition which in the view of part of our society needs clarification. This is the source of the legislative efforts by some parties in the Knesset.

It is my sincere desire to achieve on this question -- as in so many other national questions -- a consensus that will encompass Jews in our country and Jews living abroad. I can only hope that this will be possible.

That is why we established in January of this year a special ministerial committee, which is chaired by me and includes the Vice Premier, the Minister of Religious Affairs and Ministers representing the other parties in the coalition. The mandate of the commission is to examine the question of the conversion abroad of persons who come here on Aliya.

The commission was charged with the task of communicating with knowledgeable persons, both in Israel and in world Jewry.

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As an interim report I can say that until now the committee and, in particular, a special sub-committee have met a great number of times and have conferred with scores of experts from many aspects of Jewish life.

In addition, we have held informal discussions with many personalities here and abroad. On my last visit to the United States I held a meeting with leaders of the Orthodox, Conservative and Reform communities.

The ministerial committee consulted leaders of various organizations, academic personalities, legal experts from the United States, Europe and Israel. In the last month or two I received the leaders of the major Jewish organizations who came specially to present the views and sentiments of their communities.

"The committee has before it some suggestions that are legislative in nature. We have proposals either for the amendment of the Law of Return, or the Law of Registration. We have proposals to amend the law relating to the power of the Chief Rabbinate. There are proposals to preserve the existing status quo which, in itself, is somewhat vague, and we also have proposals for administrative procedures.

From the material studied by the committee, it seems that the differences between the extremes are rather big and even the more moderate views do not, as yet, offer the possibility of a solution that would satisfy all sides. Jewish history has shown that, in matters of religion, very few people would change their entrenched ideas.

Possibility Of A 'Consulting Mechanism'

Therefore, we are now looking into the possibility of creating some agreed consulting mechanism that would be widely recognized and supported. We realize, of course, that this will not, of itself, prevent some parties or individuals in the Knesset from continuing their legislative efforts to secure a Knesset majority for their viewpoint.

However, we shall go on with our work together with all individuals and Jewish organizations who are interested in finding an agreed approach and solution. I realize this may not be easy, but we will not give up hope.

I firmly believe that, despite the things that divide our people, there is much more that unites us and that, if we persevere and show tolerance for each other's viewpoints, we will find an appropriate answer.

We are conscious of the fact that our present efforts -- no matter how difficult and painful -- will lay the foundation for a more united, a more understanding and more tolerant Jewish nation for the generations to come.

SHARANSKY BEGINS U.S. TOUR SAYING GLASNOST A BUST FOR JEWS

By Yitzhak Rabi

UNITED NATIONS, Sept. 2 (JTA) -- Former Prisoner of Conscience Natan Sharansky began a three-week private U.S. campaign on behalf of Soviet Jews by saying Wednesday that "the oppression of Jews remains a firm policy of the Soviet Union."

Sharansky told a news conference Wednesday from steps named in his honor opposite the UN that Soviet domestic liberalization is a "sleeping pill aimed at squelching the Soviet Jewry issue."

Sharansky told the JTA that during his visit he will meet with American Jewish leaders to warn against complacency in the face of the Soviet liberalization known as "glasnost." He has warned in recent months that the principle goal of Soviet General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachev's glasnost campaign is to lull the West into believing that Jews have the same rights as others in the USSR.

He further contended that the Gorbachev regime makes occasional gestures of good will by freeing prominent Jewish dissidents, but that the denial of emigration rights for Jews remains unchanged. About 700-800 have emigrated per month in 1987.

Sharansky, who arrived from his Jerusalem home with his wife Avital and their nine-month-old daughter Rachel, said that his stop in Washington, D.C., would include meetings with State Department officials and members of Congress. He said he would stress to them the importance of continuing the pressure on the Soviet Union to open the gates for Soviet Jews.

A Crucial Period Ahead

"The fate of those Jews who remain in the USSR will be determined during" the upcoming months, he said, which he called a crucial period in East-West relations.

The former POC disclosed that he spoke by phone, before leaving Israel, with refusenik Lev Ovsischer, who said he was granted permission to emigrate. Ovsischer, a Minsk native who has been recently living in Moscow, was denied an exit visa for many years because he is a former pilot in the Soviet Army.

Sharansky's press conference was sponsored by the Coalition to Free Soviet Jews and attended by members of American groups working on behalf of Soviet Jewry.

Alan Pesky, chairman of the Coalition, told reporters that while improved relations and easing of tension between the U.S. and USSR would be a welcome development, "the issue of Jewish emigration and human rights must not be sacrificed on the altar of superpower diplomacy."

He emphasized that glasnost is an attempt by Gorbachev to portray life for Jews in the Soviet Union "as akin to paradise on earth."

KAHANE, SIX FOLLOWERS PROTEST ISRAELI MOSLEM CONSUL IN ATLANTA

By Richard Bono
The Atlanta Jewish Times

ATLANTA, Sept. 2 (JTA) -- Rabbi Meir Kahane, the Kach Party member of Knesset, led six local Kach supporters here Tuesday in a demonstration in front of the Israel Consulate for the Southeast, calling new Consul General Muhamed Massarwa "anti-Zionist."

Massarwa, who arrived here August 24, is the first Moslem to serve as an Israeli diplomat abroad. He was welcomed by Atlanta Jewish leaders, who praised the appointment as representative of Israel's democratic ideals.

Kahane, with a large contingent of local journalists in tow, got as far as the intercom system outside the Consulate's locked security door. He spoke in Hebrew through the intercom for several minutes, but was refused entry.

At a press conference earlier that morning, Kahane maintained that Massarwa's appointment - though representative of Western democracy - is inconsistent with Zionism when carried through to its "logical end."

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"I want to know if Massarwa can fulfill his major role of 'aliyah' -- getting Jews to emigrate to Israel," Kahane said, "Does he really want to see more Jews in Israel? Of course not. He is an anti-Zionist, as well he should be. If any Arab is a Zionist, then he is a traitor to his own people because Zionism calls for a Jewish state."

Israel suffers from schizophrenia, according to Kahane. "It doesn't know if it's a Western democracy or a Jewish state," he said. "It can't be both. And Massarwa's appointment raises this issue."

Kahane's Appearance Condemned

Local Jewish leaders called a press conference later in the day to condemn Kahane's appearance and reaffirm their support for Massarwa.

A joint statement issued by 11 Jewish organizations said: "Kahane is not representative of Israelis. He is not representative of American Jewry. His words and actions are alien to Judaism; they are an anathema to traditional Torah teachings. We reject this affront to our people, to our tradition and beliefs, and to our abiding commitment to brotherhood and peace."

Speaking for the Jewish community were: Gerald Cohen, immediate past president of the Atlanta Jewish Federation; Rabbi Arnold Goodman, president of the Atlanta Rabbinical Association; Stephen Selig, president of the Atlanta chapter of the American Jewish Committee; and Dr. James Kaufman, chairman of the Southeastern office of the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith.

After his rebuff by the consulate, Kahane told reporters: "I knew quite well Massarwa would not meet with me . . . What you've seen here is a refusal to face up to the essential question: Is Israel a Jewish state or a Western democracy? But we (the local Kach Party) will not allow this man to appear in public without being constantly questioned about this . . . We won't let this man alone."

He said the purpose of his being here was to garner media coverage of the questions he raised. "I don't think this has been a waste of time, far from it," Kahane said.

EDUCATORS BECOME STUDENTS AT CONFERENCE; CAJE TO CHANGE NAME

By Andrew B. Adler
The Atlanta Jewish Times

CARROLLTON, Ga., Sept. 2 (JTA) -- The 12th annual conference of the Coalition for Alternatives in Jewish Education (CAJE) will be remembered for administrators and teachers becoming enlightened pupils at West Georgia College here August 23-27.

The conference attracted more than 1,650 Jewish educators from the United States, Canada, Israel and 13 other countries who participated in upwards of 600 learning sessions that focused on diverse subjects such as Talmud, current events, Jewish mysticism, computers, creative arts and teaching Hebrew.

Along with the coalition, this year's CAJE conference was co-sponsored by the Atlanta Bureau of Jewish Education, and assisted by a grant from the Atlanta Jewish Federation.

The educators reflected every shade of the Jewish theological spectrum, from Orthodox to secular Jews; and every level of educator; from Sunday school teachers to heads of Jewish studies departments at major universities, directors of boards of Jewish education, noted rabbis, scholars and many others involved in or concerned about Jewish education. CAJE presented a forum in which "we shared ideas, solved problems and developed friendships," said Betsy Dolgin Katz of Highland Park, Ill., CAJE's national chairperson. "We also increased our knowledge and developed new skills. What we learned during these four days affected our commitment to teaching and our pride in our profession."

New Name Announced

Dr. Eliot Spack, national director of CAJE, professed a change in the coalition's direction. Started as a collecting board for alternatives in Jewish education 12 years ago, "we are now an active force in Jewish communities," said Spack, "and we have achieved a higher degree of prominence; therefore, CAJE will officially stand for the Coalition for the Advancement of Jewish Education as of Rosh Hashanah, September 24.

"We are no longer an alternative to the establishment. In the '70s, we were only a conference; in the '80s, we have made major strides to become a smorgasbord of Jewish creativity for our 3,500 members."

Rabbi Maurice Lamm, president of the National Institute of Jewish Hospices and professor at Yeshiva University in New York, joined Rabbi Edwin Friedman of Bethesda, Md., and Dr. Sol Gordon, professor emeritus of child and family studies at Syracuse University, on an inspirational panel that spoke before CAJE members in the Education Center.

"Who cares? We care," stated Lamm. "The Jewish community is doing very well, but with more assistance we will do even better." Throwing his arms into the air, Gordon exclaimed that "life is opportunity," that we all have a "mission and role in life" and "mistakes are turned into lessons." Friedman shared a case study about an ancient biblical family in modern-age terms called "Raising Cain."

"Our Caring Community," the only plenary session of the conference, was followed by workshops. The session featured several scholars, teachers and authors who discussed Jewish attitudes toward major problems in contemporary society -- drug and alcohol addiction, suicide, teenage sex, child abuse, single parents, surrogate mothers, AIDS, aging, poverty and cults.

Evening programs were filled with music, drama, dancing, arts and crafts, storytelling and other entertainment. Additional programs included a pre-conference for high school students who want to become Jewish educators and an hour-long session on women's rituals.

The 13th annual conference for the Advancement for Jewish Education is scheduled for Jerusalem.

In addition, the 18-page education booklet "Terrorism: A Discussion Guide" was released at the conference. It was prepared by Michael Myers, supervisor at the Associated Talmud Torahs of Chicago and an instructor of Tanach at the Ida Crown Jewish Academy there. It is designed for young adults and adults. For more information, Call CAJE, (212) 696-0740.

* * *

JERUSALEM (JTA) -- The World Zionist Organization now has 720 shlichim (emissaries) around the world, according to updated figures issued here. Of the total, 420 are teachers, 200 youth and halutz shlichim, 60 are aliyah shlichim and 40 are sent by other WZO departments.

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JEWISH-THEME FILMS AT MONTREAL FILM FEST INCLUDE ITALIAN FILM ON REFUSENIKS, WITH LIV ULLMAN AS NUDEL CHARACTER
By Michael Solomon

MONTREAL, Sept. 2 (JTA) -- At a press conference Sunday at the 11th World Film Festival here, Norwegian actress Liv Ullman, who plays a character named "Ida" loosely based on Soviet refusenik Ida Nudel in an Italian production, "Farewell to Moscow," said that what she calls a "pivotal" scene was mysteriously cut from the film, which was not the one she was promised to be shown. The film's producer, Enrico Roseo, pleaded innocent to the charge and dissociated himself from the clipped version.

In Italy, the film was shown in a fuller version. There, Ullman won a Donatelli Award for Best Actress for the role. Ullman said she told the producer she would not promote the film if it were not the complete version, and he reportedly promised her the Montreal version would not be cut. (However, observers pointed out that it is common to cut films for the North American market, and that Roseo's disclaimer of responsibility might possibly have been a publicity stunt to attract media attention.)

At the Montreal festival, the film won an award from the Ecumenical Jury, which said of the film that "in spite of certain difficulties, (it) pleads eloquently in favor of individual rights through the recall of an actual case."

The seven-year-long production of the film included many changes of scriptwriters and directors. Based on a story by Roseo and Marcello Andrei, the film's final version boasted a screenplay by five writers: Niccolo Badalucco, Lucia Drudy Demby, Robert Balchus, Eric Bercovici and Mauro Bolognini, who was the last of about three directors.

A Moving Case History

The film includes a highly fictional portrayal of the well-known Soviet dissident, including a story of a marriage and a lover unknown to those familiar with Nudel, despite the fact that Nudel's sister in Israel, Elana Fridman, reportedly went to Rome to consult on the film.

"This is a film I really care about," Ullman told reporters. "Not only does it have all the emotions and range an actress dreams about, but it is telling a very important story. On one level, it is a moving case history of an actual refusenik; and on a greater level, it's telling the story of repression in a totalitarian regime."

In the scene cut, which appeared at the end in the original version, Ida expresses her feelings about how the Soviets restrict her physical movements, but "will never be able to control her thoughts," said the Oscar-winning Ullman, a non-Jewish activist on behalf of Soviet Jewry and human rights who serves as assistant secretary general of the United Nations for the protection of children. Ullman said that for her, Nudel is the victim "of an ideology, and not of the Russian people."

Ullman said that several scene sequences toward the film's end appear abnormal, particularly when Ida returns from Siberia "looking for her husband and her lover." The film says that Ida was divorced. While Ullman never met Nudel, she says she got her inspiration from Nudel's courage in face of years of suffering despite her innocence. Nudel, who asked Soviet authorities for permission to emigrate to Israel to join her sister, was imprisoned and then exiled to Siberia. She lives in exile in the Moldavian city of Bendery, harassed and followed.

Roseo said he believes pro-Soviet opinion in Europe has caused the film to be boycotted and delayed in the last seven years of production. He also suggested that the Cannes Film Festival rejected an earlier version of the film on political grounds.

Roseo said, "The unfortunate Nudel has had bad luck, even in the movie about her life."

"Farewell to Moscow" opens in New York in November. Whether the original version or the censored one will be shown, nobody can answer.

Some 20 Jewish-theme and Israeli films were presented at the film festival. The films include "Rock and Roll Rabbi" by Alexander Goldstein, a young Toronto filmmaker, and "Mending the World," a touching story of the Holocaust by Harry Rasky, told in paintings and sculptures intermingled with the thoughts of philosophy professor Emil Fackenheim.

Among the films, outstanding are "Berlin-Tel Aviv" by Tzippy Prope, an Israeli-born director, telling the story of a young Berlin Jew who made his escape to Palestine during the war and did not find peace of mind until he forced a Jewish kapo, guilty of selling Jewish lives to prolong his own, to commit suicide.

A big attraction was the Israeli-made movie "Late Summer Blues," dealing with Israeli youths during the War of Attrition, waiting to be drafted into the army in the summer between their matriculation examinations and the army call-up. When the news of the first boy killed at the Suez Canal reaches them, they ask themselves whether "to die for one's country" is the answer.

"The Testament," a French film drawn from Nobel laureate Elie Wiesel's novel of the same title, has packed full theaters during the festival. So has "Weddings in Galilee," a Belgian production dealing with the conflict between Jewish military authorities and local Arabs during an Arab wedding. This is the first time in memory that so many films with Jewish themes have been shown at the World Film Festival, which ran from August 20 through September 1.

WHICH GULF IS IT?
By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, Sept. 2 (JTA) -- The United States has been challenged on its stated policy of neutrality since the start of the Iran-Iraq War, but now Washington is being put to a new test-- is it the Persian or Arabian Gulf? Historically, it has been called the Persian Gulf; Iran, as everybody knows, was formerly Persia.

But there are seven Arab countries bordering the Gulf, and the Arabs have long referred to the now troubled body of water as the Arabian Gulf.

Some officials in the Pentagon have been tilting toward the Arab feelings of late and referring to the Arabian Gulf, while others continue to use the historic name.

When State Department spokeswoman Phyllis Oakley was asked about this Tuesday, she replied that "in keeping with our traditional stuffy image we stick with the Persian Gulf."

She noted that on occasion, Department spokesmen simply say "the Gulf." Oakley added that the Department has a geographer who decides on usage based on international custom.

Next question -- is it the Gulf in the Near East or Middle East?

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PANEL INVESTIGATING WALDHEIM'S MILITARY SERVICE DURING WORLD WAR II BEGINS ITS WORK BEHIND CLOSED DOORS

By Reinhard Engel

VIENNA, Sept. 3 (JTA) -- An international commission charged with sorting out the facts of Austrian President Kurt Waldheim's militay service during World War II commenced its work Wednesday behind closed doors.

The commission will deal with the questions of whether Waldheim was directly involved in war crimes, what did he know about operations and was he personally able to influence them.

The commission is headed by Swiss military historian Hans Rudolf Kurz and includes an Israeli military historian from Tel Aviv University, Yehuda Wallach; a former U.S. General, James Collins; the director of the Institute for Military History at the University of Freiburg in West Germany, Manfred Messerschmidt; a former professor at the Surrey Univeristy in Britain, Gerald Fleming; and a professor at the Belgian Center for Research on the History of the Second World War, Jean Vanwelkenhuyzen.

Commission head Kurz drew sharp criticism on Wednesday after a private meeting between him and Waldheim became public. Kurz defended himself saying he wanted to "get in touch on a human basis." He claimed he would also have met representatives of the World Jewish Congress, had they approached him.

The World Jewish Congress initiated the investigation that exposed Waldheim's membership in a Nazi unit implicated in the death and deportation of thousands of Jews, Serbs and Greeks during World War II.

The members of the commission have insisted on complete independence from the Austrian government and government officials have pledged to abide by their request. But Foreign Minister Alois Mock confirmed that there was "administrative support" for the work of the commission.

Sorting Out Two Different Accounts

The task of the commission is to sort through the two radically different accounts of Waldheim's war service, one put forth by the World Jewish Congress and accepted by the U.S. government, the other put forth by Waldheim himself in a recently published White Book. Waldheim's critics accuse him of being an intelligence officer in the Balkans whose unit was involved in the deportation of Greek Jews and atrocities in Yugoslavia. Waldheim claims he was a minor figure with no commanding power and little knowledge of atrocities.

The Israeli member of the commission, Wallach, told Austrian radio in an interview that Israel "should and must be interested in clear knowledge and conclusions in that matter." This is the reason, Wallach said, he chose to cooperate with the investigation.

Wallach brought almost 30 pounds of documents with him but said there are still gaps he will try to fill. He added that the commission would call witnesses to testify.

DEFENSE MINISTRY ESTABLISHES FOUR TEAMS TO WIND DOWN LAVI PROJECT

By Hugh Orgel

Tel Aviv, Sept. 3 (JTA) -- Four special teams established by the Defense Ministry are working on winding down the Lavi project, with "the objective of causing the minimum possible harm in the level of employment at Israel Aircraft Industries (IAI)," Haaretz reported Thursday.

Defense Ministry Director-General David Ivri is coordinating the work of the teams.

One team will be leaving later in the month for the U.S., where its main work will be to examine contracts signed with American companies, and the amount Israel will have to pay them in compensation.

The second team will focus on closing down the project in Israel, and will conduct negotiations on the amount of compensation to be paid to Israeli companies that signed Lavi-related contracts.

Members of the third team will be responsible for employment issues, and will examine the possibility of worker mobility, and absorbing workers dismissed from IAI and other factories in new places of employment.

The fourth team, working with the Israel Defense Force, will examine the possibility of the army using a variety of Lavi components, which would prevent the shutdown of some parts of the Lavi project. This team will also look into the possibility of increasing IDF orders from IAI.

AMBIVALENCE ABOUT A HISTORIC MEETING

By Margie Olster

NEW YORK, Sept. 3 (JTA) -- The 75-minute meeting between Pope John Paul II and nine Jewish leaders Tuesday -- hailed by some participants as a historic new beginning -- has met with sharp criticism by some American Jewish figures who claim that the Vatican avoided all substantive topics of concern and that no real progress was made.

Rabbi Balfour Brickner of the Stephen Wise Free Synagogue here said the meetings "did not break any new ground" but served the purpose of damage control.

"The exchange cleared the air. It gave everybody a face-saving opportunity to allow the Jewish community an opportunity to participate in the Miami meeting (with the Pope September 11). What is critical is that American Catholic-Jewish relations not be affected because this is where they really work," Brickner said.

Archbishop John May of St. Louis, president of the National Conference of Catholic Bishops, called the meetings "positive and constructive." He said the Vatican's stated commitment this week to increased consultations with Jewish leaders on decisions which affect Jews is a new development in Vatican-Jewish relations.

Earlier this month, the Pope sent May a letter thanking him for compiling a book of the Pope's statements over the years on Jews and Judaism. The letter included a sympathetic account of Jewish suffering during the Holocaust.

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May also said individual American Catholic bishops who had conveyed Jewish dismay over the Waldheim meeting had been instrumental in arranging a meeting in New York between Vatican Secretary of State Agostino Cardinal Casaroli and Jewish representatives which paved the way for this week's discussions.

"I am very happy about the meeting and think it's a good basis for the meeting next week in Miami," May said.

A Landmark . . . But

One of the participants, Rabbi Alexander Schindler, president of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, reflected the ambivalent reactions of Jews to the meeting, calling it a "landmark in the history of Catholic-Jewish relations," but expressing dissatisfaction with some aspects of the exchange.

The delegation "did not accept" the Pope's explanation of why he had received Austrian President Kurt Waldheim, accused of Nazi war crimes, Schindler said. "Nor did we find persuasive the Pope's statement on why the Vatican has not yet recognized Israel," he said.

A joint communique issued by participants in the meetings touched upon the four main topics raised by the Jewish delegation but some said the document fell short of addressing the substance of those issues.

On the top of that agenda was Jewish bitterness over the Pope's reception of Waldheim in an audience last June 25. In the weeks leading up to the meetings, the Vatican had insisted privately in correspondences with the Jewish representatives that the subject of Waldheim not even be raised at the meeting with the Pope. Consequently, some viewed the admission of Waldheim's name to the talks a victory for the Jewish delegation, and a defeat for Waldheim.

But the Vatican did not apologize or concede a mistake in the Waldheim audience nor was such a reaction expected by the Jewish delegation. The joint communique said "The Catholic delegation acknowledged the seriousness of and the church's sensitivity to those Jewish concerns, and set forth the serious reasons behind the judgement of the Holy See." This was the only comment addressing the Waldheim controversy from a Vatican perspective in the entire document.

Claims Little Was Accomplished

Elan Steinberg, executive director of the World Jewish Congress -- which was represented in the delegation -- said the meeting accomplished very little. However, he noted that the Vatican had at least given in on the Waldheim issue, acknowledged sensitivity to Jewish anger and called this "a slap in the face to Waldheim."

Rabbi Avi Weiss of the Hebrew Institute of Riverdale, NY, said the meeting resembled more of an audience than a dialogue and claimed "nothing substantive came out of the meeting. The Pope did not respond to concerns raised by Jews on the Waldheim visit. Nor did he respond to the issue of recognition of Israel."

Weiss has led protests against Waldheim internationally. On the occasion of Waldheim's inauguration, Weiss protested in Austria and when the Pope received Waldheim at the Vatican, Weiss and his supporters dressed in black-and-white-striped garb symbolizing Jewish prisoners of the Holocaust and demonstrated outside the Vatican.

Weiss added, "I think many of the Jews emerged from the meeting terribly dissatisfied. But they want to make it look as good as possible."

He noted that the Pope will probably meet Waldheim again in June when he makes a state visit to Austria.

The Issue Of Israel

The discussions of the question of the Vatican's absence of diplomatic relations with Israel, also one of the four main agenda topics, drew critical responses from observers and participants.

The joint communique said the Vatican declared "there exist no theological reasons in Catholic doctrine that would inhibit such relations, but noted that there do exist some serious and unresolved problems in the area." The communique restated the Vatican's opposition to diplomatic relations because of political questions which were noted in the past to include the status of Jerusalem and the Palestinian question.

"The central question of Israel has been left in abeyance," Steinberg said. "This still remains the principle obstacle to betterment of Vatican-Israel relations. You cannot normalize relations with the Jewish people unless you normalize relations with the Jewish State."

Weiss echoed this sentiment, saying, "If the Vatican does not recognize Israel, it does not recognize me."

'Realistic In Our Expectation'

Seymour Reich, international president of B'nai B'rith who met with the Pope said "We were realistic in our expectations . . . We did not expect the Pope to apologize for meeting with Kurt Waldheim, nor did we expect the Vatican to announce the commencement of diplomatic relations with Israel.

"Nevertheless, both subjects were aired and the Church now knows the depth and intensity of Jewish feelings on these matters. I must also add, frankly, that while I was not satisfied with the Church's response concerning diplomatic relations with Israel, we will continue to pursue the issue."

Although the Vatican did respond to a third item on the Jewish delegation's agenda, concern over revisionism of the Holocaust, by saying it was preparing a paper on the topic, this is also not a new development. The formulation of an official Catholic document on the Holocaust and historical anti-Semitism was announced more than a year ago on the occasion of another Jewish delegation's visit to the Holy See.

It remains unclear, though, whether the Vatican will address the Catholic Church's role during the Holocaust in that paper, which was one of the concerns expressed by the Jewish delegation and others.

Achievements Should Not Be Exaggerated

Henry Siegman, executive director of the American Jewish Congress and also a member of the Jewish delegation, played down the significance of the meeting. "What was achieved in Rome should not be exaggerated; it is far too early to describe our achievement in Rome as historic. We averted permanent damage to the newly developing relationship between Catholics and Jews that might have been harmed by the unfortunate audience granted Kurt Waldheim by Pope John Paul II."

A letter by the American Jewish Congress following the Waldheim audience -- in which it declared it would boycott the Miami meeting with

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the Pope and Jewish representatives in Miami and called on the Pope to address the question of the role of the Catholic Church in the Holocaust and historical anti-Semitism -- was one of the catalysts for this week's meetings in Rome.

UNION OF ORTHODOX RABBIS AGAINST JEWS MEETING POPE

By Susan Birnbaum

NEW YORK, Sept. 3 (JTA) -- The Union of Orthodox Rabbis of the United States and Canada told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency Thursday that it strongly opposed any meeting of Jewish leaders with the Pope in Rome and in Miami next week. The Union's director, Rabbi Hersh Ginsberg, emphasized that they are opposed to Jews meeting with the head of the Catholic Church at any time. Ginsberg explained that their reason is halachic and not political.

Ginsberg said that the Union had contacted the Rabbinical Council of America prior to the visit of Jewish leaders with Pope John Paul II and advised them not to send anyone to Rome. He said the Union hadn't come out with a statement at the time because they had felt that personal contact would be strong enough. "Because they didn't listen," said Ginsberg, "the Union is now issuing a public statement."

Ginsberg said the Union, the oldest rabbinical organization in the U.S., founded in 1900, bases its decision on a response by the late Rabbi Moshe Feinstein, printed in Egroth Moshe, Yorah Deah, Vol. 3, Response No. 43. He said the response was written in 1964 to Rabbi Joseph Soloveichik of Boston, at a time when Jewish leaders wanted to go to Rome to talk to Pope John XXIII.

Feinstein's response stipulates specifically that according to Jewish law, it is strictly prohibited to meet with the head of the Church. Feinstein mentions the Pope specifically, Ginsberg said. He added that this response includes even social meetings, because this is considered as leading to "avodah zorah," idol worship.

Ginsberg emphasized that "we are not taking any revenge on anyone, like Waldheim. This is a strictly halachic response."

Ginsberg said the Union had come out with a very strong statement against condemning the Pope, "because we felt this is pikuach nefesh (healing)." He said they felt such condemnation "could cause anti-Semitism, could cause revenge by Gentiles against Jews, and we believe in living on very good terms with the Gentiles. We would not insult or abuse the Pope. We just go according to the halacha, which does not permit either dialogue or social meetings with the Pope."

ARAFAT TO GENEVA FOR NGO MEETING ON PALESTINE QUESTION

By Tamar Levy

GENEVA, Sept. 3 (JTA) -- Palestine Liberation Organization leader Yasir Arafat is expected here Monday to participate in the international meeting of Non-Governmental Organizations (NGO) dealing with the question of Palestine and the call for a Middle East peace conference. The conference takes place September 7-9.

Arafat is scheduled to address the gathering and hold a press conference. The keynote address will be given by U.S. Rep. Nick Joe Rahall (D. W. Va.). Also participating is Vladimir Vinogradov, Soviet Minister of Foreign Affairs. The Israeli delegation to the United Nations here is planning to counter the conference with press briefings.

Beginning September 3, the NGO international coordinating committee is holding seminars on the Palestinian problem at the Ecumenical Center. There will also be an exhibition of the Palestinian Red Crescent Society and a sale of handicraft by women from Lebanon and the Israel-administered territories.

Israeli, Palestinian and French authors are expected to sell and autograph their books. A festival of films on the Palestinian problem will be held at a local cinema.

Swiss authorities do no appear eager to have Arafat here. President and Foreign Minister Pierre Auber refused to receive the PLO leader. Instead, he will be received by general manager of the Ministry Edouard Brunner. One of the apparent reasons for Auber's reluctance to meet with Arafat is the July hijacking of an Air Afrique jet by a Lebanese terrorist, Hussein Ali Mohammed Hariri, who was captured at the Geneva airport after killing a French passenger and wounding a steward. Hariri, imprisoned in Switzerland, is expected to stand trial here on charges of air piracy and murder. Switzerland has been geared for Arab terrorist reprisals since the hijacking.

FORMER NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL CHIEF SAYS USSR MUST BE BROUGHT INTO THE MIDDLE EAST PEACE PROCESS

By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, Sept. 3 (JTA) -- William Quandt, who directed Middle East affairs in President Carter's National Security Council, said Thursday that the Soviet Union must be brought into the Middle East peace process if progress is to be achieved.

The United States can no longer be the lone intermediary in the Mideast, Quandt said in a talk at the Brookings Institution, where he is a senior fellow.

Quandt, who said he had long been opposed to including the Soviets, said his views changed after his summer tour of Israel, Jordan, Egypt and Syria, that, he said, left him "skeptical and pessimistic" about any chances for progress.

If peace could be achieved through negotiations just between Israel and Jordan, then the U.S. could be the lone intermediary, as it was in the Egyptian-Israeli peace talks, Quandt said.

But, he stressed, Jordan cannot make peace with Israel without either the support of Syria or the Palestinians, and the U.S. "does not have much influence" with either. However, the Soviets do, he added.

Critical Of Reagan Administration

At the same time, Quandt criticized the Reagan Administration for failing to be more actively involved in the Mideast peace process. He said the Administration mistakenly believed that it should only act after the parties involved have taken the "necessary" steps to move toward negotiations.

But, Quandt argued that once the parties have shown willingness to negotiate, the U.S. is needed to push them along. "Any time we have made progress in the past, it is been after a heavy dose of leadership from the United States from the outside," he said.

He explained that when Israeli and Arab leaders have to make difficult political decisions "it's a lot easier to say 'the Americans made us

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do it'." He pointed to the Israel Cabinet's decision to abandon development of the Lavi fighter plane which he noted many in Israel wanted to do, but found it helpful to stress that the decision was needed to prevent a deterioration in relations with the U.S.

On the Soviet Union, Quandt said that there had been "encouraging talks" about the Mideast recently between the U.S. and the Soviet Union, as well as signs that the USSR was moving from its "traditional positions" of "inflexibility" in the Mideast where it only dealt with the intransigent Arab countries.

He said the Soviet Union appears to support an international conference that would neither dictate the terms to the parties nor impose a veto on any decisions reached through bilateral talks. He said the Soviets also seem to support the Palestinians being part of a Jordanian delegation without any formal participation in the negotiations by the Palestine Liberation Organization.

But Quandt said that the Soviets, like the U.S., do not consider the Mideast peace process a priority item.

SHAS PARTY QUITS MUNICIPAL COUNCIL

JERUSALEM, Sept. 3 (JTA) -- The ultra-Orthodox Shas Party quit the City Council Thursday to protest the screening of films on the Sabbath and vowed more street demonstrations if the Sabbath continued to be desecrated. The move does not threaten Mayor Teddy Kollek's city coalition but underscores religious bitterness over the screenings. Shas has three seats on the 31-member Council.

Deputy Mayor Nissim Zeev of Shas told reporters that "as long as the disturbances continue in Jerusalem, the Holy City, we cannot stand by and give legitimacy to all that happens." Shas' resignation becomes effective at the Council's next meeting later this month.

A spokesperson for Kollek said "We are sorry to see them go because they represent a certain percentage of the population. We are sorry they cannot see that there are other citizens in this city who have desires that should be respected." The ultra-Orthodox make up 25 percent of the city's population.

MOSCOW FAIR TO EXHIBIT JEWISH BOOKS

NEW YORK, Sept. 3 (JTA) -- Jewish Book Publishers is exhibiting more than 1,000 titles from more than 115 American publishers, including about 15 university presses, at the sixth Moscow International Book Fair, Sept. 8 through 14.

Members of the Russian Jewish community who attend the book fair will have an opportunity to examine Bibles and Talmuds, as well as books on Jewish religion, thought, art, history, holidays, mysticism, poetry and literature.

The exhibit includes children's books, educational materials and works on Chasidism, Jewish life and prayer, and the Holocaust. Most of the books are in English, but a number are in Hebrew, Yiddish and Russian.

During the fair, the association expects to distribute 18,000 copies of a 64-page catalog and illustrated poster prepared by the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith. The catalog contains a list of the books and publishers at the exhibit as well as information about the Jewish family, holidays and life-cycle events.

Featured in the catalog are a narration of "nachas" from Charles Silberman's "A Certain People" and an evocation of Shabbat memories by Elie Wiesel.

The colored poster includes an illustration of a 1797 menorah, a four-year Jewish calendar and a short description of the major Jewish holidays.

The association's participation in the book fair is being supported by the Lucius N. Littauer and the Joseph Meyerhoff foundations.

Founded in 1962, the Association of Jewish Book Publishers is a non-profit organization of more than 40 publishers for the discussion of mutual concerns by those producing books of Jewish interest.

TOGOLESE PRESIDENT ASKS AJWS FOR DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE

MONTREAL, Sept. 3 (JTA) -- President Gnassingbe Eyadema of Togo met Thursday in Quebec City with Laurence Simon, president of the American Jewish World Service, to finalize plans with AJWS for assistance with the critical problem of grain storage in this West African nation, it was reported by the AJWS.

The meeting with Eyadema was the culmination of a series of meetings between Simon and Togolese officials including, Foreign Minister Yaovi Adodo and UN Ambassador Kwam Kauassi.

In those discussions, the AJWS said, Adodo emphasized his country's numerous unsuccessful attempts at decreasing post-harvest grain losses which reach 40 percent in good years and in poor years can be as high as 60 percent. Simon travelled to Quebec City at Eyadema's invitation, where the President was attending a meeting of Francophone nations.

At the meeting, it was agreed that AJWS's work in Togo will commence by the end of this year with a review and analysis of grain storage problems. AJWS's work in Togo will become part of its larger grain storage program which is testing new storage technologies for use in developing nations of Africa, Asia and Latin America, where losses as severe as those in Togo are common.

AJWS staff and Trustees, and Israeli grain storage experts, will participate in the review in conjunction with the Minister of Rural Development of Togo, the AJWS reported.

Togo recently joined the growing number of African nations to reestablish relations with Israel.

The centerpiece of the AJWS program is the testing of a revolutionary, low-cost plastic grain silo developed by the Volcani Center, Israel's leading agricultural institute. Use of the Volcani silo in Israel's Negev has reduced post-harvest grain losses to less than one-tenth of one percent. This is the lowest known loss for any type of grain storage system in use anywhere in the world.

The Volcani silo's inventors consider the silo a reliable technology for semi-arid regions, like the Negev, and are confident that through testing it can be adapted for use in semi-tropical regions.

Eyadema expressed his country's strong interest in becoming a test site for the Volcani silo, with the hope that Togo's experience could be shared with other nations of West Africa.

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WAITING FOR THE POPE
By Margie Olster

MIAMI, Sept. 7 (JTA) -- Papal bumper stickers and pins reading "I Love Pope John Paul II" are the hottest items in town, and one local bar has invited papal enthusiasts to pose with a life-size cardboard cut-out picture of the Pontiff as Miami geared up for his first visit to this south Florida city on Thursday and Friday.

Virtually all major thoroughfares and arteries to downtown Miami will be closed Thursday and Friday for crowd control and security during the Pope's two-day visit which includes a meeting with some 200 Jewish leaders Friday morning.

Security is extremely tight in every venue the Pope will visit on his U.S. trip. But extraordinary security measures are planned in Miami for the Pope's meeting with President Reagan. Both the Pope and Reagan have been shot in assassination attempts. Reagan will greet the Pope at the airport when he arrives by jet Thursday at about 2 p.m.

But not only security will be heavy for the papal visit. Some 4,000 reporters have received credentials for the Pope's visit in Miami and the major networks will carry live coverage of most or all of the events. For the Pope's entire U.S. visit, about 20,000 reporters have requested credentials.

This is Pope John Paul II's first visit to Miami or the southeastern United States, presumably because the Miami Catholic community has grown significantly with the influx of Cuban and Latin American refugees. The Pope has strong ties to Latin American Catholics, a more conservative community than the largely liberal American Catholic population.

Highlight Of The Miami Visit

Among the highlights of the visit to Miami are: a meeting with President Reagan at Vizaya, an old Italian mansion with breathtaking gardens and fountains, at which the two are expected to discuss U.S. foreign policy and disarmament; several public masses; and a meeting with 196 Jewish leaders Friday at the Miami Fine Arts Center where the Pope will also view an exhibit of Judaica from the Vatican.

The Church in Miami has called on local Catholics to get out to see the Pope in person instead of simply viewing the visit on network television. One of the places people will have an opportunity to see the Pope is at the papal parade Thursday at 7:15 p.m. where police estimate a crowd of 250,000 will turn out. The Pope will ride in his popemobile, a Mercedes with a special bullet-proof bubble top, so the Pope can see and be seen.

(Two popemobiles have been brought over for the papal visit so that one can await him in every city. The secret service in Miami will not permit the press or even organizers of the papal visit to view the popemobile in advance and will not disclose its location.)

The popemobile will move slowly down Biscayne Boulevard in downtown Miami because the Pope wants to see the faces in the crowd, organizers said.

The meeting with American Jewish leaders Friday morning is also a first -- the first time a Pope has met with Jews in America. The meeting will consist of an address by Rabbi Gilbert Klaperman, president of the Synagogue Council of America, followed by a papal response.

Representatives of the International Jewish Committee on Interreligious Consultations (IJCIC), the American Jewish Committee, American Jewish Congress, Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith and American rabbinical groups will be present at the meeting.

The exchange between the Pope and Jews will begin with the Pope's tour of the Judaic exhibit from the Vatican.

An even larger contingent of about 500 Jewish representatives will attend a reception and dinner Thursday night at the Omni Hotel with Johannes Cardinal Willebrands, president of the Holy See's Commission for Religious Relations with the Jews, and high-ranking Vatican officials and American Catholic leaders.

BANNER DAY FOR REFUSENIKS: PROMINENT AND LONG-TIME REFUSENIKS GIVEN PERMISSION TO EMIGRATE
By Susan Birnbaum

NEW YORK, Sept. 7 (JTA) -- Within three hours Monday, several prominent and very long-time refuseniks in the Soviet Union were told they had received permission to emigrate. The list includes Iosif Begun, Viktor Brailovsky, Vladimir Lifshitz, Arkady Mai, Lev Sud and Semyon Yantovsky, according to Israel Radio, the Long Island Committee for Soviet Jewry and the National Conference on Soviet Jewry.

Begun, 55, a Moscow mathematician, lost his job when he first applied to emigrate in 1971. He is the best known of the group of clandestine teachers of Hebrew and served more than three years of a 12-year sentence on charges of anti-Soviet activities. He was released last February. Begun was recently refused permission once more to teach Hebrew. He is married to Inna and has a son, Boris.

In an interview with Israel Radio, Begun said he was elated but at the same time "suffering" over the fact that Ida Nudel and many other refuseniks were still trapped in the Soviet Union.

"We have to work together" for their release, he said in a live-broadcast phone conversation with Labor Member of Knesset Ora Namir, who recently visited him in Moscow when she was there as part of a delegation of Israeli women to a women's conference. He said he did not yet know when he would make aliya, but expected "to wind up my affairs in Moscow and leave soon."

Begun's cousin in Brooklyn, Chaim Tepper, said he didn't want these releases to be considered more than symbolic. "We want to see an onging continuous flow of refuseniks being allowed to leave the Soviet Union."

Viktor Brailovsky, 52, a Moscow cybernetici-cist, first applied for an exit visa in October 1972. His first refusal was in January 1973. He was arrested in November 1980, charged with defaming the Soviet state and sentenced to five years' internal exile. He was released in March

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1984. His wife, Irina, will reportedly accompany him, along with their son, Leonid, 26, who is married to Elena. They have a two-month-old son, David.

Lev Sud, 30, and his wife Ala, 31, of Moscow, were first refused in August 1985. Ala is the sister of Yuri Shtern, spokesman of the Soviet Jewry Information and Education Center in Jerusalem. They have a daughter, Maryam, 7. They are observant Jews. Lev is a musician, Ala a computer programmer.

Vladimir Lifshitz of Leningrad, 46, was sentenced March 19, 1986 to three years in prison for anti-Soviet slander, based on letters he had written to friends in the West, as well as to then Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres and Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir, asking them to raise the question of "the repatriation of Jews from the USSR." His wife, Anya, son, Boris, and daughter, Maria, will reportedly join them. Boris, a 19-year-old engineering student, was offered a place and scholarship at Boston University last year.

Arkady Mai, 64, and his wife Helena Seidel, 59, of Moscow, are refuseniks since 1974, because of Mai's supposed knowledge of "state secrets." They told visiting Americans in May they didn't "think there were any possibilities for them to emigrate." They have a daughter, Naomi, 25. Mai is an electronics engineer, Seidel a linguist-lecturer who has spent whatever time she could translating. Mai reportedly contracted bronchial asthma during the World War II.

Semyon Yantovsky, 78, who recently did research on the conditions of synagogues in the Soviet Union, also got permission Monday. His wife, Erna Matlina, received her permission last week. Matlina's son is in Israel. Yantovsky's first refusal was in 1978. His profession was lecturer in religion. He speaks English and Hebrew.

Vladimir Lifshitz, 46, was notified Monday also, according to the National Conference on Soviet Jewry. Lifshitz was first refused January 1, 1981. A systems analyst and mathematician, he lost his job as head of the division of economic forecasting at the All-Union Scientific Research Institute for the Jewelry Industry. He was arrested January 8, 1986, after staging several hunger strikes. He was a Hebrew teacher and cultural activist in Leningrad. He is married to Anna and has two children, Boris and Maria. Boris has been offered a place at Boston University and financial help.

Two POCs Expected To Be Released Soon

Only one Jewish Prisoner of Conscience reportedly remains in jail: Alexei Magaryk, who is expected to be released in a few days. Twenty-six former prisoners have not received exit visas, among them Ida Nudel.

According to Lynn Singer, LICSJ executive director, at the Chautauqua, NY, human rights conference last week, Samuil Zivs, vice chairman of the Soviet Anti-Zionist Committee and of the Association of Soviet Lawyers, publicly said: "I can now give you two secrets: that Magaryk will be released by the 14th of September, and Joseph Zisels (a Prisoner of Conscience from Moscow) will be out in October." Zisels' wife and teen-age son have been living in Israel for five months. Pamela Cohen, president of the Union of Councils for Soviet Jews, said "It's not surprising that the Soviets chose this moment, eight days before the start of the Shultz-Shevardnadze talks, to make this announcement."

However, she said, "It's a tangible and dramatic indication that Soviet leaders are aware of the constant efforts in behalf of Soviet Jews that are undertaken by our government and leading human rights groups, such as the UCSJ; it's an indication that the pressure for movement forward has to be kept up."

The NCSJ said, "While we are gratified by the permissions granted to three former Prisoners of Conscience, and several long-term refuseniks, we can only hope that permissions will soon be granted to the thousands of other refuseniks who wish to exercise their basic human right of freedom of emigration."

LAVI WORKERS STAGE PEACEFUL PROTEST
By David Landau and Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Sept. 7 (JTA) -- About 15,000 employes of Israel Aviation Industries (IAI) demonstrated peacefully but noisily outside the Prime Minister's Office Sunday to protest the Cabinet's decision to scrap the Lavi, Israel's jet fighter-plane project.

They marched around the building seven times, blowing horns in a reprise of Joshua's phalanx before the walls of Jericho. They carried placards reading "Zionism Kaput," "Scrapping the Lavi Means Dependence Forever," and "Lavi, C'est La Vie." Some chanted "Peres Go Home." The marchers followed an eight-foot model of the Lavi which would have been the second-generation combat aircraft designed and built in Israel.

Police armed with clubs and shields were on the scene and troops with machine guns were deployed on rooftops. But the anti-riot precautions proved unnecessary. The demonstrators observed the conditions laid down by the Premier's Office -- that they observe law and order and not interfere with Ministers entering the building to attend the weekly Cabinet session.

The Lavi decision split the Cabinet along party lines. Labor voted to abandon the project. Likud stood firmly behind it and might have carried the day had not Finance Minister Moshe Nissim, a Likud Liberal, sided with Labor.

The issue is far from dead. The Herut Central Committee, meeting in Ariel in the West Bank Sunday, resolved to "make every effort to reexamine the decision." Premier Yitzhak Shamir insisted, however, that as long as the Cabinet majority decision stands, it must be respected.

Generals Come Under Fire

But Shamir sharply criticized the top-ranking Israel Defense Force officers, including the new Chief of Staff, Gen. Dan Shomron, and Air Force Commander Gen. Avihu Bin Nun who had lobbied vigorously against the Lavi. They argued that the hugely expensive project would rob the IDF and particularly the Air Force of more vital new weaponry. They contended that the American F-16C jet fighter was as good as the Lavi and much less costly.

Shamir, however, blasted the generals. He said the IDF's involvement in the Lavi debate was "a dangerous precedent which I hope will never be repeated." Herut denounced Foreign Minister Shimon Peres, the Labor Party leader, and Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin for their opposition to the plane. But observers noted that the resolution adopted by Herut to try to reverse the decision was moderate compared to the sharp rhetoric of Shamir, Minister of Commerce and Industry Ariel Sharon, Housing Minister David

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Levy and Minister-Without-Portfolio Moshe Arens who last week resigned from the Cabinet to protest abandonment of the Lavi.

The immediate effect of the Cabinet's action may be large-scale dismissals by the government-owned IAI, one of the largest single employers in the country. Rabin ordered the top management of IAI Sunday night to lay off 3,000 employes. He said 2,000 other Lavi workers could be employed on other IDF-backed weapons projects.

Nissim said earlier that the number of dismissals will not be determined immediately and he hoped additional aid from the U.S. would reduce the number of lay-offs. Some IAI employes may find jobs with the Israel Electric Corp.

Nissim Going To Washington Next Week

Nissim will go to Washington next week on a trip planned before the Lavi decision. he told Israel Radio Friday that he would ask the Americans to quickly implement their promises to help Israel cushion the dislocations resulting from cancellation of the Lavi.

He said he would also investigate ways of utilizing American defense orders in Israel that would be most helpful to Israel's defense industries in general and IAI in particular.

Shultz Reaffirms U.S. Support

Secretary of State George Shultz sent a message Friday to Shamir reaffirming the American commitment to support Israel's economy and security. He told Shamir he understood the difficulty of the decision to scrap the Lavi but promised that cooperation from now on would strengthen both countries.

On Thursday Shultz telephoned Arens, a former Israel Ambassador to the U.S. who is highly respected in Washington. He urged him to withdraw his resignation. But Arens replied that while he was moved by Shultz's plea, he could not bear the responsibility for the Lavi decision and therefore left the Cabinet.

Meanwhile, Peres told the Foreign Ministry Executive Friday that Israel's main goal now is to strengthen economic ties with the U.S. and Japan, including technological and industrial projects.

ABA DELEGATION IN USSR FOR HUMAN RIGHTS SEMINARS WITH SOVIET LAWYERS

By Susan Birnbaum

NEW YORK, Sept. 7 (JTA) -- Twenty U.S. lawyers are in the Soviet Union as delegates of the American Bar Association (ABA) to meet with members of the Association of Soviet Lawyers (ASL) and other Soviet teachers and legal experts for in-depth seminars and a tour of the Soviet Union to include observation of courtrooms and other institutions.

The scope of this particular exchange is unprecedented, says Eugene Thomas, immediate past president of the ABA who was instrumental in hammering out the details of the seminar.

The arrangement arose from the much disputed "declaration of cooperation" entered into by the two lawyers' groups in 1985. Many Soviet Jewry activists in the U.S. have raised loud voices against the agreement, arguing that the Soviet lawyers work directly for the Soviet state and that within the group are individuals responsible for anti-Semitic propaganda.

However, a number of attorneys personally involved in the struggle for human rights in general and Soviet Jewish rights in particular have expressed cautious optimism for the accord, viewing it as a possibility to work, albeit guardedly, with the Soviet system.

The ABA, at its annual convention last month in San Francisco, resolved by voice vote that any agenda drawn up between the American and Soviet lawyers must include the issue of human rights. This will include permission to monitor trials, release of political prisoners, an end to punitive psychiatric hospitalization and adherence to the Helsinki Accords.

The resolution was urged by those generally opposed to the ABA-ASL agreement who, in light of the 156-32 person vote at this past convention, saw some slim possibilities in including a special resolution that would focus ABA attention on human rights and the special cases of Soviet Jews and dissident prisoners.

Agenda Of The Seminars

The agenda of the initial two-day seminar, held in Moscow, encompassed methodical interchanges on the two nations' legal approaches to the issue of individual freedoms, including: the concept of human rights; human rights provisions in the constitutions of both countries; international pacts on human rights and their implementation in the law of the country; social, economic, political and legal guarantees of the enforcement of human rights (housing, education, health care, employment).

Also, political rights and freedoms of citizens; procedural guarantees of justice and of the rights of an individual (due process); guarantees of inviolability of persons and their homes (search and seizure); social and economic rights of citizens; rights of women in society; rights of national, racial and ethnic minorities in society; available remedies to protect rights of individuals against encroachments by officials or government agencies; and the role of the judiciary in protection of the rights of an individual.

The two days of seminars were held September 3 and 4. In addition, court visits and other meetings were planned for the American and Soviet lawyers in Moscow and Leningrad.

The delegation is led by Robert MacCrate, ABA president, and the organization's president-elect, Robert Raven, the two of them acting as official ABA representatives.

Although there have been previous exchanges between the two lawyers' groups which have placed human rights as a priority concern, the current seminar in the USSR focuses on the issue exclusively.

Last September, the American and Soviet lawyers met at Dartmouth College. This past June, the Soviet lawyers attended a meeting of the ABA board of governors in Boston, and then were invited to attend the annual meeting of the National Association of Attorneys General in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, where they discussed human rights issues. The Attorneys General also decided to send a delegation to the USSR, slated for October.

The Soviet lawyers then went to Boise, Idaho, at the invitation of Thomas, who is now in private practice there. In Boise, they discussed trade and business relations with the USSR with a panel of general counsel of Pacific Northwest businesses interested in international trade.

"Please note," Thomas told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency, referring to the Moscow seminars, "that this is different in that there is an added quality of expertise in the field of human

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rights and Soviet law generally." He explained that five lawyers addressing the issues are specialists, steeped in Soviet law, culture and language. The ABA delegates were briefed by the State Department and Soviet Jewry groups, Thomas said.

The concord between the American and Soviet lawyers was adamantly opposed at the ABA's annual convention last month in San Francisco by former Soviet dissidents who were Prisoners of Conscience in labor camps and psychiatric hospitals. They see this agreement as a ploy, a deceit perpetrated by the Soviets under the new policy of glasnost.

ABA advocates of the human rights resolution claim that if the Soviet lawyers are members of the Soviet state system, one has to deal with them as such, without illusions, and bring this awareness to the discussion table.

An Anticipated Accomplishment

Neil Kritz, who drafted the resolution, was among those who briefed the ABA delegation that is now in the USSR. Kritz told JTA he thinks "this is very worthwhile. I think the ABA is a potentially very important ally in the Soviet Jewry movement." Kritz believes one of the most significant accomplishments to come from the ABA-ASL agreement will be the successful placement of prison observers.

At present, the ABA and ASL have agreed to a court trial observer arrangement in both countries, "which if it works is an enormous step," said Kritz, a Soviet Jewry activist himself who works in the ABA's Washington office as coordinator of immigration law implementation projects.

Thomas said that at the June meetings in Boston, ASL visitors "admitted they had to be able to enforce the agreement. They agreed that the Soviet standards of justice weren't high enough, that KGB practices were wrong."

The agreement to trial and prison observers was not easy to realize, said Thomas, explaining at length the background to the agreement. The accord did not come about in Washington, or New York, or even in Boston. Rather, it was pushed over late night coffee in his living room in Boise. There, he worked over the agreement's specifics with ASL president Alexander Sukharev, who is also Justice Minister of Russia.

Thomas said he had tried to include in the agenda administrative proceedings in addition to criminal and civil judicial proceedings. Sukharev, he said, agreed to support the criminal and civil observer requests and would sign an agreement at a later time, but Thomas said he told him that the partial agreement "wasn't good enough."

Therefore, said Thomas, Sukharev promised to fight for the rights of lawyers or appropriate government officials to visit each others' countries to observe trials or civil and criminal proceedings. Thomas and Sukharev then secured board ratification of the presidential agreement. In San Francisco, this agreement was formalized.

"We've set this up so that other relevant people in the U.S. should go to the USSR as observers in trials," Thomas said. "What you do is you press and you press. But you've got to get these people to change what they do. This is a business for very cynical people," Thomas conceded.

A STORMY WEEKEND IN JERUSALEM

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Sept. 7 (JTA) -- A small and relatively quiet demonstration of Haredim (ultra-Orthodox) outside the United Nations building at the Mandelbaum Gate former crossing point in Jerusalem Sunday provided a bizarre addendum to one of the stormiest weekends this city has known in recent years.

Nearly 30 Haredim and one non-Orthodox here were arrested during Saturday demonstrations by the ultra-Orthodox in more than 20 locations around the city.

The night before, six film-shows took place, one of them in a commercial cinema, and all were sold out in an exhibition by non-Orthodox Jerusalemites of solidarity with the secularist activists pressing for a more variegated cultural life in the capital on weekends.

The Haredim mounted several demonstrations close to Haredi areas on Friday night, but these were small and nonviolent. The action turned nasty Saturday afternoon, when, on orders issued before Shabbat by the Beit Din of the Eda Haredit, ultra-Orthodox activists led Shabbes demonstrations at key intersections throughout the city.

The Main FlashPoints

The main flashpoints were the junction of Mea Shearim street and Shivtei Yisrael Street, and Bar-Ilan street, the main artery from the northern suburbs to the western exit of the city towards Tel Aviv. In both these place, police were massed in force, and they used tear-gas, high-pressure water-cannon, mounted cavalry charges--- and liberal swinging of their night-sticks -- to keep the roads clear for traffic.

On the whole, they succeeded in this mission, though one woman driver was hurt by a flying stone that hit her car, and a policeman was also injured by a projectile. Police sources said more than 600 extra men had been brought into the capital over Shabbat. The commercial cinema that screened a film Friday evening, the Orna, had formally rented its premises to a non-profit organization, and preceded the showing with a lecture by well-known author David Grossman.

At Beit Agron, a municipality-aided cultural center in downtown Jerusalem, religious and secular citizens engaged in heated sidewalk arguments while in the hall a film was screened, preceded by a brief lecture in order to qualify as a cultural event. Meanwhile, the Jerusalem municipality announced Sunday that it would prosecute both the commercial cinema that sereened a film on Friday night and the company running Beit Agron.

Mayor Teddy Kollek's spokesman Rafi Devara said the Mayor distinguished between programs which were genuinely cultural and other ventures that were mainly commercial. Devara's implication was that Kollek would defend film-shows at bona fide cultural centers but would not allow a creeping spread of films to commercial halls.

President Chaim Herzog came out Sunday against films in Jerusalem on the Sabbath. Israel Television quoted him as explaining that the special character of the city should be preserved.

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SPECIAL TO THE JTA
A GLASNOST INVITATION
By Sam Lipski

MELBOURNE, Sept. 9 (JTA) -- Australian Soviet Jewry activist Isi Leibler has accepted an official invitation to spend Rosh Hashanah in Moscow as a guest of the capital's Jewish community center. The invitation has aroused interest in international Soviet Jewry circles because it is understood to be the first of its kind since the proclamation of the glasnost era by Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev.

Although the Soviets, even pre-glasnost, had occasionally invited rabbis as their official guests, Leibler is believed to be the first non-rabbinical leader involved in international Jewish affairs to receive a formal invitation in the Gorbachev era.

Where other Jewish leaders have visited the Soviet Union in recent years it has usually been at their request or by arrangement -- not as a result of an official invitation.

The Moscow community center houses the Moscow Synagogue under the direction of Chief Rabbi Adolf Shayevich and is a government-sponsored body associated with the Ministry of Cults and the Council of Religions of the USSR. The Liebler invitation therefore would have been sanctioned at a senior government level.

Liebler's invitation came from Boris Gramm, president of the community center. Together with Shayevich, Gramm was in Budapest last May at the same time as the historic conference of the World Jewish Congress where he met Leibler, president of the WJC's Asia-Pacific Region.

Leibler is an executive member of the International Council of the World Conference on Soviet Jewry (known as the Presidium). With an involvement which dates back to the early 1960's, he is recognized as one of the foundation members of the international Soviet Jewry movement.

According to international analysts, the invitation should be seen as a hopeful indicator of a more positive outlook by the pro-glasnost elements in the Soviet leadership. It is also being linked to the visit to the Soviet Union in December by Prime Minister Bob Hawke.

The Prime Ministerial visit by Hawke was originally scheduled for October but was postponed because of the prospects of a superpower summit. Human rights and Soviet Jewry, especially in the light of the visit to Australia earlier this year by Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze, are expected to be on the agenda.

Analysts believe that the Soviets expect Leibler to be in a good position to convey something of Hawke's thinking on these issues as well as providing insights into recent international developments which may affect attitudes to the Soviet Union on human rights issues.

Although he emphasized that he had no expectations that his talks with Soviet officials would lead to any significant policy changes or breakthroughs for Soviet Jewry, Leibler said his invitation in itself was a hopeful sign that glasnost may offer greater opportunities to conduct a real dialogue with the Soviet leadership.

He said he was completely surprised by the invitation "but I am both excited and moved at the prospect of being in Moscow to celebrate the new year with Soviet Jews."

This will be Leibler's fourth visit to the Soviet Union but his first since 1980. Despite repeated efforts he was unable to obtain a visa until 1986. At the last minute, however, that visa was revoked without explanation.

THE GOOD, THE BAD AND THE CHILDREN
By Margie Olster

MIAMI, Sept. 9 (JTA) -- Arlene Fishbind's sixth-grade class at the Hebrew Academy of Miami got a crash-course in the Vatican and Pope John Paul II's upcoming visit to the United States beginning here Thursday when they visited the exhibit of Judaica from the Vatican Library Tuesday at the Miami Fine Arts Center.

The exhibit coincides with the Papal visit to Miami Thursday and Friday and is located at the site of the Pope's meeting with 196 Jewish officials on Friday morning. The Pope is scheduled to tour and bless the exhibit Friday morning just before his meeting with the Jewish officials.

The exhibit -- shown for the first time outside of Vatican City -- contains 57 of the Vatican Library's 800 Judaic manuscripts. Hebrew translations of four gospels, of Pope Clement XI's sermons and of Aristotle are included in the collection on display.

A tour guide walked Fishbind's class through the exhibit answering an endless stream of students' questions on the Vatican and the Pope. One young boy with a kippa on his head asked "Who is John Paul?" and before the guide could answer another blurted out "Can I go to the library at the Vatican?" but was disappointed to hear it was closed to visitors.

Another classmate informed the group that the Pope's "gonna come to the Orange Bowl (Miami's football stadium)." But the Pope will not be at the Orange Bowl, which the boy probably confused with Tamiami Park, a fairgrounds where the Pope will conduct a giant mass Friday.

The discussion then turned to security and one of the children pointed out that President Reagan will come to meet the Pope in Miami. "Is Reagan Jewish?" another asked. The class moved on to the next glass-enclosed manuscript and the questions continued.

When the tour concluded, Fishbind's class had a few minutes while they waited for the bus to arrive to discuss what they learned about the Vatican and the Pope at the exhibit. Several said they have learned more from the nightly television reports which one complained devote "15 minutes of the half-hour" broadcast to the papal visit.

"I learned that he's the first non-Italian Pope in 435 years," said Chaim Hyman, 10, who, according to his classmates, can recite from memory the names of every U.S. President in order, including their middle initials.

Sherry Solomon claimed "This Pope is good to Jews because he is meeting with Jewish leaders here." But Hyman countered, saying, "The meeting is unimportant because they just want to know why he met with the German guy who helped kill

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some Jews (referring to Austrian President Kurt Waldheim)."

On the Pope's side, one boy defended John Paul II saying he is a kind person. Jeremy Wachtel, 10, said the Pope "is trying to make better friends between the two religions." He added that the Pope will wear a bullet-proof vest, sharing another pearl of wisdom from the tour. This could not be verified.

Pamela Schnarch said some people in the class were upset over the exhibit because they felt "some people used the Pope's stuff translated to Hebrew and mixed up our religions." She referred to one manuscript entitled "Homiliae," a collection of major sermons by Pope Clement XI from the 18th century translated to Hebrew and Latin.

Among some of the other Vatican nuggets Fishbind's class walked away with were these facts: the Pope doesn't like women to be heads of churches; some of the color illustrations in the manuscripts were made from crushed stones and gems; some of the books were gifts from Jewish people; and until this exhibit, only scholars saw the books.

Some of the children said they felt left out of all the hoopla over the Pope's visit and that they thought the country wouldn't do the same for the visit of a major "rebbe." Erica Fishman said "Reagan wouldn't come to greet our rebbe." Most agreed that the Pope was receiving too much attention in the news and community.

"All he's trying to do is make peace between Jews and Christians," one girl shouted to the Pope's critics.

Indeed, one of the stated objectives of the exhibit is to demonstrate the consistent relations and contacts between Jews and Christians throughout history and to promote greater understanding between the two faiths.

The manuscripts on display date back to the eighth century up to the eighteenth century. The Vatican established the Library in 1453 during the Renaissance when Hebrew, like Greek and Latin, was considered essential for the educated man.

The exhibit features Latin translations of Kabbala, a Hebrew translation of Aristotle's "De Rhetorica" from the 14th century, biblical commentaries, illustrated Bibles, prayerbooks and even a "riddle book" or collection of quips which the Italian Jewish community coined during yeshiva classes.

An unusual Hebrew translation of four gospels is displayed with the explanation that before the Renaissance, the gospels were translated to Hebrew and studied in order to counter missionary attempts to convert Jews. The gospels recount a version of Jesus' death, which has been discounted by historians, that depicts the Jews lobbying for the death of Jesus.

The translation to Hebrew "shows a combination of scorn and respect for the text and its teachings," the exhibit notes. Also on display are biblical commentaries by the Church Fathers and Christian Hebraists.

A 15th century copy of Maimonides' Mishna Torah is included in the exhibit along with a Mahzor or prayer book in Hebrew for Yom Kippur. Several rare manuscripts featured include a massive compilation in a single volume of the Bible, Massorah, Magna and Pavra (written in the shapes of birds, animals and geometric pattern) Prophets, Writings, the Book of Esther and Rashi's commentary on Pentateuch, completed in 1294.

The only known Kabbalist to write in Arabic, Joseph ben Abraham ibn Wakar, is displayed in a book of exposition on Kabbala. The only known copy in existence of "Arugat ha-Bosem (Garden of Spice)" by Abraham ben Azriel, only recently recognized as a significant Hebrew work, has been included in the exhibit. Azriel was a 13th century scholar and commentator of the prayer book, post-biblical and medieval Hebrew poetry.

The Union of American Hebrew Congregations, in cooperation with the Vatican, mounted the exhibit of Judaica from the Vatican Library.

RABIN ON OFFICIAL VISIT TO W. GERMANY
By David Kantor

BONN, Sept. 9 (JTA) -- Israeli Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin laid a wreath at the Jewish memorial at the former Dachau concentration camp Wednesday and later visited a munitions factory near Munich.

Both events symbolized the dual nature of the first official visit to West Germany by a Defense Minister of Israel -- a reminder of the Nazi past and an affirmation of the present cooperation between the two countries in developing and producing armaments.

Rabin said at Dachau that there was no pardon for Nazi crimes against the Jews, but a commitment to remember what happened. At the same time, he added, it is Israel's duty to build military strength which, with other elements, make impossible a recurrence of the past.

Rabin also visited the former Olympic Village in Munich where on September 6, 1972, Palestinian terrorists massacred the Israeli Olympics team. The barracks where the athletes were gunned down is now an apartment building.

Meetings With Government Leaders

Before returning to Bonn, Rabin met with Franz-Josef Strauss, leader of the conservative Christian Social Union (CSU), sister party of the ruling Christian Democratic Union (CDU). Strauss, who sits on the boards of several leading German arms manufacturers, favors West German arms sales to both Israel and the Arab countries.

The Israeli defense chief was scheduled to meet with Chancellor Helmut Kohl and other leaders and attend a war game at school for armored troops.

Rabin arrived in Bonn Monday where he was greeted by a military honor guard and held talks with the West German Defense Minister, Manfred Woerner. The two Ministers discussed industrial and technological cooperation in the military field. According to Rabin, this has been going on for some time under guidelines provided by the respective governments. He did not say which companies are involved but noted that the cooperation covered "specific, limited fields."

Rabin also said that to the best of his knowledge, West Germany is not supplying arms to any Arab state. Asked if Israel planned to order submarines from West Germany, he declined to discuss Israel's intentions.

He said he was impressed with Woerner's account of West Germany's problems in developing a new jet fighterplane. Rabin said the German leaders felt their country could not afford to build such a weapons system alone and was seeking a joint project with their European allies. Israel has just scrapped its own jet fighter project, the Lavi, because of excessive costs. Rabin explained the reason for that decision to Woerner.

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A YEAR OF DEBATE: 5747 IN REVIEW
By Andrew Muchin
(Part Two In A Series)

December 1986

JERUSALEM -- Israel said it would allow its officials to testify before U.S. Congressional committees inquiring about the sales of U.S. arms to Iran. U.S. Attorney General Edwin Meese had said "representatives of Israel" had deposited $10-$30 million of Iran arms funds in Swiss bank accounts maintained by the Contras.

TEL AVIV -- The Soviets reportedly continued quiet contacts with Israel begun in October over establishing consular relations.

PARIS -- Rumanian Chief Rabbi Moses Rosen blamed a proliferation of anti-Semitic articles for creating the climate in which a synagogue was burned in November.

NEW YORK -- Fined financier Ivan Boesky resigned from most of his Jewish community involvements here, including the revocation of several six-figure pledges.

JERUSALEM -- The Supreme Court ruled unanimously that the Interior Ministry cannot inscribe the world "converted" on the identification card of a convert to Judaism.

JERUSALEM -- The Cabinet ratified an agreement with Egypt to submit to international arbitration the dispute over which country possesses Taba, a resort town on the Sinai border.

WASHINGTON -- The U.S. Supreme Court refused to hear an appeal by Nazi war criminal Karl Linnas against deportation to the Soviet Union, where he was sentenced to death in absentia for war crimes.

NEW YORK -- The Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations of America called on all Jewish institutions and congregants to divest from all investments in companies that do business in South Africa without adhering to the Sullivan Principles.

SAN FRANCISCO -- Three Bay Area rabbis of different branches addressed each others' congregations in an unprecedented effort to broaden congregants' understanding of other views of Judaism. A Reform and a Conservative rabbi in South Orange, NJ, did likewise.

JERUSALEM -- A week of violence in the West Bank and Gaza ended with four Palestinian youths dead and scores of Palestinians and Jews injured. The violence began with soldiers fatally shooting two Bir Zeit University students and wounding 11 others during a riot.

JERUSALEM -- Premier Yitzhak Shamir said Israeli soldiers held prisoner in Lebanon would have been released in the Iran arms deal had the sales not been made public.

WHITE PLAINS, NY -- The Union of American Hebrew Congregations announced plans to educate its 1.25 million members about AIDS.

OSLO -- Accepting his Nobel Peace Prize, Elie Wiesel said "more people are oppressed than free."

MONTREAL -- The Bronfman family established the CRB Foundation to counter Jewish polarization and improve relations between Israel and the Diaspora.

UNITED NATIONS -- The U.S. abstained on a Security Council resolution that condemned Israel for the killings of the Bir Zeit students. Israeli diplomats expressed concern that the vote would be misinterpreted as a weakening of U.S.-Israeli ties.

VIENNA -- Austria returned its Ambassador to Israel, Otto Pleinert, as "an expression of the desire, the will and the effort for good and correct relations."

TEL AVIV -- The Soviet Union provided Israel with what the Soviets said was the original Nazi SS identity card issued to John Demjanjuk, on trial here for war crimes.

NEW YORK -- Conservative, Orthodox and Reform leaders agreed at a forum here that Jewish unity could be achieved with civility and the encouragement of pluralism.

NEW YORK -- The Metropolitan Museum of Art apologized for a catalogue reference that described the owl as "a symbol of darkness and hence of the Jewish people who rejected Christ, the light of the world..."

SYDNEY -- Pope John Paul II told Australian Jewish leaders that "no valid theological justification can ever be found for acts of discrimination or persecution against Jews. In fact, such acts must be held sinful."

JERUSALEM -- The Absorption Ministry said 19 percent of Israelis aged 18-29 were likely to emigrate.

JERUSALEM -- Two ad-hoc ministerial committees began examination of the rejected financial plan proposed by the Finance Ministry. Complaints came from all sectors of the economy.

JERUSALEM -- Three Arab youths from Jenin received life sentences for the murder of Eliahu Amdi.

NEW YORK -- Former refusenik cancer patient Rimma Bravve and her husband Vladimir arrived here.

JERUSALEM -- Wiesel said Austrian President Kurt Waldheim would resign if he had "any conscience left."

JERUSALEM -- Heavily guarded Mordechai Vanunu, on trial for allegedly selling Israel's nuclear secrets to a British newspaper, flashed a message written on the palm of his hand that he was kidnaped.

TEL AVIV -- Ten thousand units of flu vaccine arrived from the Netherlands. Asian flu had killed 89 Israelis in November and sickened many others.

JERUSALEM -- The Supreme Court upheld the life sentence of David Ben Shimol, a 21-year-old soldier who fired an anti-tank missile at an Arab bus in 1984 near the Old City, killing one passenger and wounding several others.

TEL AVIV -- A Justice Ministry committee absolved Shamir of any wrongdoing in the Shin Bet Affair -- the 1984 killing of two captured Arab bus-hijackers by Israeli agents and the subsequent cover-up.

NEW YORK -- Only 914 Soviet Jews were permitted to leave in 1986, a 20 percent drop from the 1,140 Jews who were permitted to leave in 1985. This was about 2 percent of the peak year of 1979, when 51,320 emigrated.

JERUSALEM -- Three Lebanese Jews held hostage by a Shiite group -- Youssef Benesti Henri Menn and Elie Srour -- were executed.

TEL AVIV -- Interior Minister Yitzhak Peretz of Shas resigned rather than confirm the Jewish identity of an immigrant converted by a Reform rabbi.

January 1987

TEL AVIV -- Jewish leaders ripped into John Cardinal O'Connor of New York for refusing to meet Israeli leaders in their offices, as he had

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promised before a Vatican order changed his tour plans. He and Jewish leadership subsequently made up during a lengthy meeting.

TEL AVIV -- Vanunu staged a hunger strike claiming cruel treatment by his jailers.

JERUSALEM -- Former Jewish refusenik Michael Shirman received a transplant of bone marrow from his sister, Inessa Fleurova, but it was too late to save his life from leukemia. He died in March.

PHILADELPHIA -- Concern about low immigration to Israel and high emigration from the Jewish State dominated the First Zionist Assembly here.

JERUSALEM -- Upon the political advice of Shamir, the religious parties postponed introduction of an amendment to the Law of Return which would recognize conversions to Judaism for the purpose of Israeli citizenship only if performed according to traditional Jewish law.

JERUSALEM -- U.S. Deputy Secretary of Defense Dov Zakheim left Israel saying that the U.S.-financed Lavi jet fighter was too expensive for continued development by Israel Aircraft Industries.

NEW YORK -- A report by the Jewish Board of Family and Children's Services here noted that at any given time 800-1,500 Jews here were homeless.

PARIS -- A Shiite terrorist group in Lebanon executed another Jewish hostage, Yehouda Benesti. He is believed to be the ninth Lebanese Jew murdered by the Mustafadin group.

NEW YORK -- Cuban President Fidel Castro allowed five Cuban Jews to immigrate to Venezuela to be reunited with their families.

JERUSALEM -- The Reagan Administration assured Shamir the U.S. would not scapegoat Israel in the Iran-Contra affair.

JERUSALEM -- The Cabinet approved a new economic program which devalued the Shekel by 10 percent, created minor tax reforms and cut the budget by 400 million Shekels.

SAN FRANCISCO -- The Jewish Family & Children's Service here hired an AIDS project coordinator, Andy Rose, the first full-time AIDS worker in a U.S. Jewish community. An estimated 200 Jews here have AIDS.

PHILADELPHIA -- Lay and rabbinic leaders formed the Task Force on Jewish Intracommunal Understanding in an attempt to prevent a possible terminal rupturing of Jewish community relations due to religious differences.

TEL AVIV -- Israel said it would comply with Western sanctions against South Africa, but not take leadership on the issue.

JERUSALEM -- Military planners were concerned over the reduced effectiveness of the Israel-backed South Lebanon Army.

DETROIT -- The States of Michigan and Israel agreed to establish relations in trade, industry, high technology and research and development.

NEW YORK -- Anglican Church hostage negotiator Terry Waite blamed the Lebanon hostage situation on Israel's policies vis-a-vis the Palestinians.

MANCHESTER, England -- Ruling on the complaint of Jewish widow Sarah Worch, the High Court curtailed the power of coroners to perform autopsies not pertaining to official inquests into a death.

JERUSALEM -- Police beefed up security here following the stabbing of two brothers in an Old City bazaar. They were the seventh and eighth Jews stabbed by Arabs in East Jerusalem since August 1985.

NEW YORK -- Soviet Jewish refusenik cancer patient Inna Meiman arrived in Washington, D.C. Meanwhile, Pravda editor-in-chief Viktor Afanasyev took the unusual step of criticizing delays in Soviet emigration.

WASHINGTON -- The U.S. Supreme Court refused to reconsider Linnas' appeal against his deportation to the USSR.

NEW YORK -- The ADL reported 594 acts of anti-Semitic vandalism and bombings in the U.S. in 1986, seven percent less than in '85. Assaults, harassments and threats rose two percent to 312. However, anti-Semitic acts on college campuses rose 60 percent to 19.

TORONTO -- The Ontario Court of Appeals reversed on technical grounds the conviction of Ernst Zundel for "spreading false news" in denying the occurrence of the Holocaust.

NEW YORK -- Jews joined the 15,000-strong interfaith, interracial civil rights march in Cumming, Ga.

JERUSALEM -- An IDF senior officer said the PLO had restored its strength in Lebanon to almost the same level as before the 1982 war there.

BONN -- The neo-Nazi National Democratic Party won 0.6 percent of the popular vote in general elections, qualifying for state funds but not for representation in Parliament.

(Tomorrow: Part Three)

ISRAELI BOOKSTAND AT MOSCOW BOOK FAIR DRAWS LARGEST CROWDS

JERUSALEM, Sept. 9 (JTA) -- The Israeli stand at the Moscow International Book Fair drew the largest crowds when the bi-annual event opened Tuesday, but Israeli publishers complained that a number of their books were confiscated by the authorities at the fair which the Soviets are promoting as "Books for Peace and Progress."

One Israeli, Amos Rolnik, said that about 20 different titles in the Russian language were removed from his planned display. He said they included a guide book and 2,000 copies of a poster providing a simple introduction to the Hebrew language.

But another Israeli publisher, Matalon Yael, said the confiscations were insignificant compared to the 7,000 books on display at the Israeli stand.

Publisher representatives from several other non-Communist countries reported confiscations, but far fewer than in past years. According to Mikhail Nenashev, head of the government's Publishing Committee, who organized the fair, the only books banned were "racist, fascist or pornographic literature."

* * *

NEW YORK (JTA) -- Authorities in Leningrad and Minsk will permit the establishment of a Jewish culture club in each city, and a Leningrad synagogue has received permission to offer religious lessons, it was reported by the National Conference on Soviet Jewry. The locations of the culture clubs have not yet been announced, but the designated religion instructor has been identified as an elder of the synagogue. The NCSJ welcomed this announcement and said that along with the granting of exit visas, the Soviets are taking a meaningful step in the right direction.

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OPTIMISM SPARKED BY USSR DECISION TO GRANT EXIT VISAS TO SOME REFUSENIKS

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Sept. 8 (JTA) -- The decision of the Soviet authorities to grant exit visas to four prominent long-time refuseniks and others sparked optimism here that a general relaxation of emigration restrictions is under way in the Soviet Union.

The four, all former Prisoners of Conscience, expected to arrive in Israel soon are Iosif Begun, 55, Viktor Brailovsky, 52, Vladimir Lifshitz, 46, and Semyon Yantovsky, 78. But aliya sources noted that 23 other former prisoners are still waiting for exit permits. Chaim Chesler, secretary general of the Public Council for Soviet Jewry, stressed that pressure must continue on the Soviet leadership on their behalf.

Premier Yitzhak Shamir expressed hope Monday that the others, including such prominent activists as Ida Nudel and Vladimir Slepak, will soon be allowed to leave. Foreign Minister Shimon Peres sent congratulations to Begun and Brailovsky. "Your dedication to the idea of the renaissance of the Jewish people in its homeland is the great light illuminating our way," his cable said.

Haim Aharon, head of the Jewish Agency's immigration department, noted a rise in aliya this year and attributed it mainly to the arrival of Jews from the USSR. So far, 936 Soviet Jews have come to Israel compared to 200 during all of 1986. The Soviets have issued the largest number of exit visas this year since 1981. Nevertheless, the "dropout" problem remains. The great majority of the 4,681 Jews who left the Soviet Union this year did not go to Israel.

Senior officials here said the change in Soviet emigration policy is another manifestation of the new policy of "glasnost" (openness) introduced by Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev. They attribute it in part to the forthcoming meeting between Foreign Minister Peres and Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze in New York, the occasion of the 70th anniversary of the October Revolution and the possibility of a Gorbachev visit to the U.S. this year.

FIVE MORE REFUSENIKS GIVEN PERMISSION TO LEAVE THE USSR

NEW YORK, Sept. 8 (JTA) -- Five more long-time refuseniks have been given permission to leave the Soviet Union, the Jewish Telegraphic Agency was informed Tuesday by Lynn Singer, executive director of the Long Island Committee for Soviet Jewry (LICSJ).

Singer said the information was given her by Vladimir Slepak and Mark Terlitsky in a telephone call from Moscow, both prominent refuseniks still denied exit visas.

According to Singer, the five who will be allowed to emigrate with their families have been granted permission by the Soviet authorities, but actually obtaining their visas is a process that can take from three weeks to two months. They are:

Vladimir Prestin, 53, of Moscow, an electrical engineer; his wife Elena, 54; and their son Mikhail, 23. Prestin first applied for an exit visa in 1970 and was subjected to harassment and frequent arrests.

Boris Kun, 30, of Moscow, an aircraft engineer; his wife Gedi, 30, an economist; their daughter, Pavla, 16. Kun first applied for a visa in 1974 and was refused on grounds he was privy to state secrets. He resigned from his position and has worked at menial jobs since then.

Evgenya Palanker, 48, a computer engineer from Yerevan, Armenian SSR; her husband, Vili, 52; their sons Dmitri, 27, and Evgeny, 21; and mother-in-law, Elizabeta Demanovskaya. Palanker first applied for a visa in 1980. Her husband received permission to leave the USSR but would not without his family.

Emma Landsman, 46, of Moscow, a computer programmer; her husband, Boris, 49, an engineer; and their daughter Aviva, 4. They had applied for visas in 1976.

Valery Lerner, 44, of Moscow, a mathematician and economist; his wife, Janna, 38; and son, Igor, 15. Lerner first applied for a visa in 1977.

SPECIAL TO THE JTA
THREE RABBIS TO ATTEND PAPAL CEREMONIES IN SOUTH CAROLINA

By Helen Silver

COLUMBIA, S.C., Sept. 8 (JTA) -- When Pope John Paul II visits this city, the capital of South Carolina, on Friday, on the second leg of his tour of the United States, three state Jewish leaders will attend the ceremonies.

Dr. William Rosenthall, rabbi of Kahal Kadosh Beth Elohim, the historic Reform congregation in Charleston, will attend the service at St. Peter's Roman Catholic Church, but not the service at the Williams-Brice Stadium which about 60,000 are expected to attend.

Rabbi Milton Schlaiger of Sumter and Rabbi Gary Perras, formerly of Charleston but now of Jacksonville, Fla., will also attend. Rabbi Sanford Marcus of Columbia's Tree of Life Temple will not attend because the time will conflict with Sabbath preparations and also because of his "dismay" by the meeting the Pope had with Austrian President Kurt Waldheim.

Jewish leaders in the state received letters several weeks ago asking whether they would like to receive invitations to the events in Columbia. Those who replied affirmatively, like Rosenthall, subsequently received formal invitations. One reason for the decision of Rosenthall to attend is the close interfaith bonds that exist in Charleston among the various denominations, exemplified by the Christian-Jewish Council, in which many Charleston Jews participate.

Basic Reason For Attending

Rosenthall stated that the "basic reason for my attendance is a demonstration of friendship for the Roman Catholic community of South Carolina." Rosenthall said he is going to present a letter to the Pope, basically a request that the Vatican recognize the State of Israel.

Charleston clergy cooperated during a march of the Klu Klux Klan in downtown Charleston on Sunday, Aug. 2, by holding an interfaith service

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simultaneously at the Cathedral of St. John the Baptist, a few blocks from the march. Rosenthall and the Bishop of Charleston, The Most Reverend Ernest Unterkoefler, participated in this service and a similar service held in the suburb of Summerville where the Klan marched a few months ago.

JEWISH VISIT WITH POPE ASSESSED
By Susan Birnbaum

NEW YORK, Sept. 8 (JTA) -- Jewish figures who met last week outside Rome with Pope John Paul II have come away from their unprecedented dialogue with the leader of the Roman Catholic Church with refurbished hopes for Catholic-Jewish relations. These aspirations are seen now as especially meaningful in light of the meeting which will take place this Friday between the Pontiff and Jewish representatives.

Rabbi Alexander Schindler, president of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, noted that "Catholic-Jewish dialogue would no longer be limited to the Vatican's Commission for Religious Relations with the Jews, but would be elevated to the level of the office of the Vatican Secretary of State and the papal office itself."

He said that the nine-member delegation had "received the strong impression that the Vatican plans to create a kind of 'diaspora desk' that would initiate an ongoing relationship with the Jewish community on non-religious, non-theological matters," a recognition that "Jews are people not only of faith but also of social concerns and political interests."

Schindler said this would mean that the Vatican would now heed not only its representatives from 21 Arab countries but Jewish sources as well, "thus reducing the likelihood of a repetition of the (Kurt) Waldheim affair."

Satisfied With Pope's Promise

Two other Jewish figures who met with the Pope aired their feelings about their meeting Sunday night on WCBS Radio's "Let's Find Out." Speaking with host Art Athens were Rabbi Mark Tanenbaum, international affairs director of the American Jewish Committee, and Seymour Reich, president of B'nai B'rith International.

Despite the Pope's refusal to discuss his reception of Waldheim, the Jewish leaders said they are more than satisfied with the Pope's promise to prepare a major encyclical dealing with the history of the Catholic Church and anti-Semitism, and the Church's relation to the Holocaust. Such a document is absolutely unprecedented, said Tanenbaum, who called it an "extraordinary development."

Reich said that Church authorities responded to the Jewish delegation's dismay about the Waldheim audience in two different ways, "state and moral." The state reason given was that "the Holy See is a sovereign state, and as such the Pope is supposed to meet with the heads of other states. We could understand that," Reich admitted.

However, he continued, they had difficulty with the moral reason: Because Waldheim had not been convicted of a crime, the Vatican was not prepared to pass moral judgment on him until such conviction.

Reich said they shared their concern about that explanation with Johannes Cardinal Willebrands, president of the Holy See's Commission for Religious Relations with the Jews, "suggesting that the Pope was a man of moral authority, and not to take the opportunity after the meeting with Waldheim to express concern about his (Waldheim's) lying about his Nazi past, and to have been elected Secretary General of the United Nations, we found that dismaying."

The Issue For The Delegation

Tanenbaum told the JTA that it was "naive" for the Jewish community to consider their meeting with the Pope a waste if he declined to apologize for his having received Waldheim. "The issue for us was to get across to the Pope and the Vatican the seriousness of the reasons why we were appalled by the audience with Waldheim, that it was not a matter of irrationality or vengeance or simple anger, but that it had very profound consequences, and that receiving Waldheim contradicted much of what this Pope has been saying and doing to improve relations with the Jewish people, and to set forth an understanding of the Nazi Holocaust."

Tanenbaum said that many Jews find it "ambiguous and difficult" to understand the Vatican's differentiation between its status as a sovereign state and its religious function. There should be no infallibility attached to Vatican political decisions, he said. "They are as right or as wrong as any state department or foreign ministry makes." He said, however, that traditional Catholics feel the Pope "has some special status on morals and that he has the absolute right to proclaim faith and morals in an infallible way."

Tanenbaum said that many Catholics do view what Jews construe as political criticism as being disrespectful of the man they regard "as the Vicar of Christ on earth, almost as a crucifixion." Every Cardinal and Bishop he had spoken to, he said, told him they had received hundreds of letters and phone calls expressing much anger at the Jews. The Catholic religious leaders said they told their congregants "there are legitimate differences with the Jews, and we feel they are our friends."

'A Remarkably Coherent Group'

Tanenbaum described the delegation that went to Rome as "a remarkably coherent group with a wonderful sense of unity." He derided the "noise made by people who have no experience with the Vatican who were making judgments and statements." He underscored that the criteria for choosing those who would meet with the Pope included a firm grounding in Vatican protocol and substantial prior experience dealing with the Church.

On Israel-Vatican relations, he said they "opened some conversations with the Vatican Secretary of State which we didn't have before."

The two meetings, Tanenbaum said, "have to be seen in their entirety. The audience with the Pope alone without what preceded it would have been far less significant substantively in terms of program, decisions. We laid the foundation for a number of fundamental developments on all the crucial issues, and the importance of the Pope in his symbolic role in the Church."

Tanenbaum said the Pope confirmed and supported the decisions made by the Jewish and Catholic delegates at the prior meeting, and that support "takes on a message that is acceptable to the world's 852 million Catholics, 52 million of them in America. And that's the importance of Miami." Tanenbaum said there had been "some messages in Rome that the Pope's statement in Miami will contain more than a ceremonial message."

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A YEAR OF DEBATE:
5747 IN REVIEW
(First In A Series)
By Andrew Muchin

NEW YORK, Sept. 8 (JTA) -- Jews argued throughout 5747, perhaps more than during any recent year. As individuals and organizations, Jews took on adversaries and perceived adversaries of Israel and Jewry, and -- no less vociferously -- each other.

Some of the talk only threatened action, such as Israel's oft-endangered national unity government that held together through the rotation of the premiership, and afterward despite conflicts over the budget and the proposed international Mideast peace conference.

Other talk was in reaction to events. Pope John Paul II was said to be good to the Jews, then bad, then was willing to converse, although to whom was the subject of well-publicized U.S. Jewish in-fighting through most of August. It's not yet wholly clear what the papal meeting with Jewish delegates finally accomplished.

Still other talk during 5747 was intended to spur action. Diaspora Jewish leaders, asserting themselves in Israel more than ever, successfully lobbied against changing laws that define Jewish identity for purposes of Israeli citizenship. Indeed, the debate over what -- or who -- defines Jewishness continued to vex the Jewish world.

Many other events took place despite what Jews had to say. More Soviet Jews -- 4,696-- than at any time over the last five years emigrated in just the first eight months of 1987, but tens of thousands more, perhaps 400,000, wish to join them, and Soviet repression continues against religious and cultural expression.

Of course, the news of the Jewish world concerned far more than all this, as the following month-by-month description demonstrates:

October 1986

JERUSALEM -- An angry crowd attended the second funeral in less than two weeks in Ashkelon for a Jewish resident stabbed to death in Gaza.

NEW YORK -- Robert Pires, 22 and an alleged member of the white supremacist Aryan Nations, was charged with three counts of bombing and one count of attempted bombing in Coucur d'Alene, Idaho.

JERUSALEM -- The first Israelis of diplomatic rank to be posted in Poland in nearly 20 years were applauded by about 130 Rosh Hashanah worshippers at the Warsaw synagogue.

WASHINGTON -- U.S. Jewish representatives urged human rights be discussed at the U.S.-Soviet summit in Iceland. Secretary of State George Shultz promised it would be at the top of the agenda. Outside the summit meeting, Jewish activists and families of refuseniks from a half dozen countries pleaded the cause of Soviet Jewry.

JERUSALEM -- A grenade attack on Israeli soldiers and their families in the Old City killed one person and wounded 69 in the bloodiest terrorist foray here in more than two years.

NEW YORK -- Long-time Jewish refusenik David Goldfarb left his hospital bed and then the Soviet Union with his wife Cecilia aboard the jet of industrialist Armand Hammer.

NEW YORK -- Nobel Prize winners included three Jews: author Elie Wiesel of New York, for Peace; and Dr. Rita Levi-Montalcine of Rome and the U.S. and Dr. Stanley Cohen of Nashville, Tenn., for Physiology and Medicine.

JERUSALEM -- Pundits ate their words as Israel's unity government actually rotated the premiership from Shimon Peres to Yitzhak Shamir, as promised, 25 months into the government. Peres took Shamir's job of Vice Premier and Foreign Minister. Otherwise, the Cabinet remained nearly identical.

BONN -- The legislature mandated that victims of Nazi persecution be accorded the same status as war victims and wounded veterans with regard to pensions and welfare.

ROME -- Chief Rabbi of Rome Elio Toaff headed the Jewish delegation to the 12-religion day of prayers for peace at Assisi.

VIENNA -- Austria recalled for consultations its Ambassador to Israel, Otto Pleinert, over Israel's failure to replace its retired Ambassador to Austria, Michael Elizur. Israel's move was seen as a reaction to the election as president of Austria the previous summer of Kurt Waldheim, allegedly involved in Nazi crimes.

GENEVA -- The International Red Cross Movement changed its name to the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement. Neglected was the Red Magen David, Israel's health organization.

JERUSALEM -- Women gained ground in religious affairs with the appointment of two women to the Labor Party delegation to the 96-member electoral college that would choose the next Ashkenazic Chief Rabbi of Tel Aviv.

PARIS -- Ivory Coast, which resumed diplomatic relations with Israel a year ago, said it would move its recently reopened Embassy from Jerusalem to Tel Aviv in accordance with a UN resolution.

PARIS -- Britain was unable to convince its 11 fellow members of the European Economic Community to join the British dissolution of diplomatic relations with Syria over the latter's alleged involvement in world terrorism.

November

WASHINGTON -- Two Jewish incumbents were reelected to the U.S. Senate, Arlen Specter (R. Pa.) and Warren Rudman (R. Vt.), meaning eight Jews continued to serve in that body. A number of Israel's best Senate friends also were re-elected. Twenty-nine Jews were elected to the House, one less than in the previous Congress. No candidate affiliated with extremist Lyndon LaRouche won.

NEW YORK -- The New York Marathon was rescheduled from October 26, Simchat Torah, to November 2, allowing an estimated 2,000 Jews to participate guilt-free.

JERUSALEM -- The Chief Rabbinate accepted the medical definition of brain death, meaning heart transplants would be permitted in Israel.

JERUSALEM -- Shamir charged that Jews who leave the Soviet Union with Israeli visas but settle in other countries gravely endanger efforts to increase Soviet Jewish emigration.

JERUSALEM -- About 1,000 people demonstrated here in favor of religious pluralism following the disruption of a Simchat Torah service in a Reform synagogue by Orthodox Rabbi Eliahu Abergil. He later apologized, the Kol Haneshama synagogue dropped charges and Abergil embraced Reform Rabbi Levi Weiman-Kelman.

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TEL AVIV -- Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin seemed to confirm in a speech to insurance agents that Israel supplied arms to Iran to help the U.S. obtain the release of American hostages held by pro-Iranian groups in Lebanon.

JERUSALEM -- Police questioned and released on bail of four leftists who headed the Israeli delegation that met in Bucharest with PLO representatives.

TEL AVIV -- Rambam Hospital in Haifa said it would continue liver transplant operations despite the death of a second liver recipient, Eliahu Shreier, 18 days after surgery.

JERUSALEM -- Israeli soldiers killed an Arab driver at a Gaza roadblock shortly after an Israeli Jew was stabbed in a Gaza marketplace in the third such attack in two months.

JERUSALEM -- The government placed the debt-ridden Beit Shemesh engine plant, with 340 employees, in receivership.

PARIS -- A powerful bomb exploded outside the main synagogue in Antwerp, causing extensive damage but no casualties. The building was unoccupied at the time.

NEW YORK -- Congregation Bene Naharayim here, the first American-Iraqi synagogue, consecrated its ark and five Torah scrolls.

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind. -- About 50 farmers met with 100 local Jews in an effort to understand the growing farm crisis and each other.

JERUSALEM -- Four young men were arrested in Rumania in connection with the burning of a synagogue in the town of Bohush in October and the stabbing of its Jewish janitor, who survived.

JERUSALEM -- Shamir said that Israel did not violate British law in its transfer of alleged nuclear tattle-tale Mordechai Vanunu to Israel. He added that Israel "is not selling arms to Iran."

JERUSALEM -- The war crimes trial of John Demjanjuk of Cleveland was set to open here January 19. He is charged with committing atrocities at the Treblinka death camp -- where 900,000 Jews were murdered during World War II -- as the sadistic guard "Ivan the Terrible." But at a hearing in District Court here, the first suspected Nazi war criminal extradited to Israel for trial said he was not "Ivan."

CHICAGO -- Speaking at the Council of Jewish Federations General Assembly here, Peres appealed to Jews not to split over religious and secular issues.

JERUSALEM -- Knesset members reacted angrily to the Israeli confirmation that it supplied $12 million of U.S. arms to Iran "in response to an American request."

BONN -- West Germany expelled five Syrian diplomats, froze economic aid to Syria and said its Ambassador's post there will remain vacant--this in the wake of a court finding of Syrian complicity in the bombing of the German-Arab Friendship Society in West Berlin.

JERUSALEM -- Calm was apparently restored in the Old City after nine days of Jewish anti-Arab violence and vandalism touched off by the fatal stabbing of yeshiva student Eliahu Amdi in the Moslem Quarter. It was the worst ethnic violence in the 20 years since Israel conquered East Jerusalem.

WASHINGTON -- Jewish groups were shocked at the ruling by U.S. District Court Judge Frank McGarr in Chicago that a creche may stand at Chicago City Hall because the U.S. is a Christian nation. A federal appeals court overturned the decision in August.

SHAMIR MENDING FENCES WITH THE ARMY AFTER RAPPING IDF ROLE IN LAVI DEBATE
By David Landau and Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Sept. 8 (JTA) -- Premier Yitzhak Shamir has begun to mend fences with the army after his sharp criticism of the Israel Defense Force high command for its alleged interference in the political debate over the Lavi fighterplane project.

Chief of Staff Gen. Dan Shomron was received by Shamir Tuesday for a reconciliation talk. The Premier sought to defuse the tense atmosphere created by his remark at a Herut Central Committee meeting in Ariel in the West Bank Sunday, blasting the IDF for its "unprecedented and dangerous involvement" in the Lavi debate.

He stressed his full confidence in the military and its commanders, although he did not retract his statement. Shomron replied that the IDF took no stand on the political issues involved in the Lavi debate but merely presented its professional view when asked to do so.

Most top-ranking IDF officers, including the Air Force commander, recommended abandonment of the Lavi project on grounds that it was robbing urgently needed funds from other vital weapons systems. The Cabinet decided by a 12-11 vote last week to scrap the Lavi, which would have been the second-generation combat aircraft designed and built in Israel.

Vote Split Along Party Lines

The vote split along party lines. Likud supported continuation of the project. Labor was opposed. Observers believe the bitterness expressed by Shamir toward the military was more an expression of disappointment over losing the political battle than any real concern that the army might turn political.

In fact, Shamir's remarks were mild compared to the rhetoric of other Likud-Herut spokesman at the Ariel meeting. They singled out Foreign Minister Shimon Peres, the Labor Party leader, and Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin for attack for scuttling the Lavi. Peres hit back Monday at a Histadrut gathering in Even Yehuda, north of Tel Aviv.

"They say I am against Zionism, well, that is right. I am against so-called Great Zionism when that means 600 percent inflation or the loss of $4 billion in the bank shares crash..." Peres said. He was referring to economic disasters during the years Likud headed the government.

Rabin, addressing reporters Monday before leaving on an official visit to West Germany, the first by an Israeli Defense Minister, said he had personally encouraged the military high command to have their say on the Lavi at Cabinet and Knesset committee forums.

Other Labor Party spokespersons wondered aloud what Shamir's and Likud's reactions would have been "if the IDF had sided with the Likud and against the Labor Party position in the Lavi debate ... Would he (Shamir) have then attacked the generals?"

* * *

GENEVA (JTA) -- Israel and Hungary will sign an agreement establishing interests offices in both countries at the Foreign Ministry of Switzerland in Bern on September 14, it was announced here. Switzerland has represented Israeli interests in Hungary since the 1967 Six-Day-War, when Hungary broke diplomatic relations with Israel.

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ENCOUNTER OF THE DIALOGUE KIND
By Margie Olster

MIAMI, Sept. 13 (JTA) Though the skies outside were stormy, the air inside an auditorium at the Miami Center for the Fine Arts had cleared after Pope John Paul II's meeting with 196 Jewish leaders here Friday morning. Anger over the Pope's audience with Kurt Waldheim faded into warm words of praise for the Pope's address as Jewish leaders assessed the meaning of his words.

Both Catholic and Jewish representatives welcomed the unprecedented meeting with a Jewish delegation on American soil, calling it a highly significant statement of Vatican ideology on key issues of Jewish concern.

The spokesman for the Jewish delegation which met Pope John Paul II here Friday morning challenged the Catholic Church to put a halt to revisionism of the Holocaust and called on the Pontiff to recognize the historical role Christian teachings have played in perpetuating the anti-Semitism in Europe which culminated in the Holocaust.

"While your sensitive concerns and noteworthy pronouncements about the Shoah have been heartening, we have observed recent tendencies to obscure the fact that Jews were the major target of Nazi genocidal policies," said Rabbi Mordecai Waxman, chairman of the International Jewish Committee on Interfaith Consultations (IJCIC), and the speaker chosen to represent the 196-person Jewish delegation which met with the Pope at the Miami Center for the Fine Arts.

A Controversial Statement

The Pope spoke of the unique Jewish experience in the Holocaust and proclaimed the legitimate rights of both Jews and Palestinians to a homeland. He reaffirmed the Church's condemnation of anti-Semitism.

In a somewhat controversial statement, the Pope said, "I am convinced that history will reveal ever more clearly and convincingly how deeply Pius XII (who served as Pope during the Holocaust) felt the tragedy of the Jewish people, and how hard and effectively he worked to assist them during the Second World War." Jewish groups have criticized Pius XII for his silence on Nazi persecutions of the Jewish people during the Holocaust.

Waxman told the Pope, "We hope that your strong condemnations of anti-Semitism will continue to be implemented in the schools, the parishes, teaching materials and the liturgy, and reflected in the attitudes and behavior of Catholics throughout the world."

Waxman added, "Greater attention needs to be paid to the Christian roots of anti-Semitism. The 'teaching of contempt' for the Jews and Judaism must be ended once and for all . . . the Shoah was the culmination of centuries of anti-Semitism in European culture for which Christian teachings bear a heavy responsibility."

Waxman said that Jews remain concerned with persistent anti-Semitism and the "Church's repudiation of anti-Semitism is of critical importance in the struggle to eradicate this virulent plague from the entire human family." Waxman participated in the delegation of nine which met with the Pope September 1 at his summer residence in Castel Gandolfo outside Rome. In his speech Friday, Waxman said the differences expressed at that meeting remain to be resolved. He addressed two of the major points of dissension between Jews and the Vatican, the Pope's June audience with Austrian President Kurt Waldheim, and absence of formal Vatican recognition of the State of Israel.

Calling the meeting at Castel Gandolfo "highly significant," Waxman said, "You and high Church leaders listened to the deeply felt concerns of the Jewish community that were raised following last June's state visit to the Vatican by Austrian President Kurt Waldheim, who has never expressed regrets for his Nazi past."

Waxman urged the Vatican to establish full and diplomatic relations with Israel quickly. "We must express our concern at the absence of full diplomatic relations between the Holy See and the State of Israel," he said.

Waxman also cited the positive progress in Catholic-Jewish relations in the past two decades, saying, "A meeting such as this is part of the healing process that is now visibly under way between our two communities." He added, "One of the major achievements of our joint encounters is the shared recognition that each community must be understood in its own terms, as it understands itself.

'Catastrophic Event Of The Shoah'

The Pope provided a response to critics who charged that the Church has made statements universalizing the Holocaust. "Considering history in the light of the principles of faith in God, we must also reflect on the catastrophic event of the Shoah, that ruthless and inhuman attempt to exterminate the Jewish people in Europe, an attempt that resulted in millions of victims -- including women and children, the elderly and the sick --- exterminated only because they were Jews," he said.

Following the exchange, several Jewish representatives from the delegation said this statement was the first affirmation by the Pope that the Shoah was specifically a Jewish plight.

The Jewish delegation greeted the Pope with lukewarm applause as he entered the small but packed auditorium. During Waxman's address, the Pope, dressed all in white, appeared pensive and serious. The Pope and Waxman shared the stage, sitting side by side behind the lectern from which they addressed the delegation.

Security was tight throughout the Pope's stay in Miami, and a smattering of U.S. Secret Service dotted the auditorium during the exchange.

The delegation interrupted the Pope's speech with applause only once after he advocated continuing education on the Holocaust. "Similarly, it is to be hoped that common educational programs on our historical and religious relations, which are well developed in your country, will truly promote mutual respect and teach future generations about the Holocaust so that never again will such a horror be possible," he said. The Pope

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then invoked the traditional Jewish cry of "Never Again," which was met with resounding applause.

The Pope then addressed another issue high on the Jewish agenda, the State of Israel.

"After the tragic extermination of the Shoah, the Jewish people began a new period in their history. They have a right to a homeland, as does any civil nation, according to international law," the Pope said. But he immediately followed by saying the Palestinians also have the same right to a homeland.

Notably absent from the Pope's speech was any reference to the Waldheim audience which had so offended the Jewish community. However, press reports Friday recounted the Pope's first public remarks on the Waldheim audience, made to reporters on the flight to the United States.

The reports said the Pope had responded "No" to the question of whether the Waldheim audience may have been a mistake. The reports then quoted the Pope as saying, "It was necessary. It's necessary to show the same appreciation, the same esteem, for every people. He came as a president, democratically elected, of a people, of a nation."

Thursday night at a dinner given by the local Jewish community to their national colleagues attending the meeting with the Pope, a high-ranking Vatican official who spoke alluded to the Waldheim audience as a "faux pas."

Johannes Cardinal Willebrands, President of the Holy See's Commission for Religious Relations with the Jews, said to the some 300 Jews and Catholics at the dinner, "Let me hope that with help from above we will achieve what the Church has asked us to do and that we can do this the right way so there becomes a new perspective for the Jewish people . . . We should forgive each other when there are missed occasions or even faux pas on the road."

A Historical Perspective

Both Jews and Catholics who attempted to assess the meaning of Friday's meeting and the events surrounding it stressed that the process must be viewed in its proper historical perspective. For example, Henry Siegman, executive director of the American Jewish Congress, noted that although the Pope's statement on Israel fell short of the full diplomatic recognition desired by the Jewish community, ten years ago when the Pope granted an audience to a Jewish delegation, the Vatican struck all references to Israel from their statement.

Two events in recent Vatican history catalyzed the unprecedented exchanges between the Pope and the Jewish community both Friday in Miami and two weeks earlier in Rome. One of those events was hailed by world Jewry, the other, abhorred.

Twenty-two years ago, the Vatican reversed its attitude of contempt for Jews, propagated for nearly 20 centuries, in a declaration known as Nostra Aetate (Latin for "In our times," the opening words of the document). In Nostra Aetate, the Catholic Church described Christianity as a branch of the tree rooted in Judaism. Jews welcomed the new era in interfaith relations.Three months ago, Pope John Paul II granted an audience to President Kurt Waldheim and praised him as a man of peace. The Pope's silence on the Holocaust during this meeting in face of documented evidence of Waldheim's membership in a Nazi army unit met with abhorrence among Jews. The two events stand at the two extremes of the continuum that is modern Catholic-Jewish relations. Many agree that the events illustrate the complex and often confusing signals the Vatican sends out to Jews and obscures the significance of the two recent exchanges between the Pope and Jews and the larger significance of the Catholic-Jewish dialogue.

Cites 22 Years Of Progress

In his speech to the Pope, Waxman cited the progress made since Nostra Aetate was declared 22 years ago. "It is clear that the teachings proclaimed in Nostra Aetate are becoming major concerns of the Catholic Church, and under your leadership are being implemented in the teachings of the Church and in the life of Catholics everywhere . . . The last quarter century has irreversibly changed the way we perceive and act towards each other."

But the process of reconciliation is far from complete, Waxman said. "We still have some way to go because Catholic-Jewish relations are often filled with ambivalence, ambiguities and a painful history which must be confronted."

The Pope in his address to the Jewish leaders also noted the progress since Vatican Council II. "It is also desirable that in every diocese Catholics should implement, under the direction of the Bishops, the statement of the Second Vatican Council and the subsequent instructions issued by the Holy See regarding the correct way to preach and teach about Jews and Judaism. I know that a great many efforts in this direction have already been made by Catholics, and I wish to express my gratitude to all those who have worked so diligently for this aim."

Both Jewish and Catholic figures who participated in the Miami meeting stress the significance of Vatican II and Nostra Aetate as the backdrop on which all current Catholic-Jewish dialogues are based, a backdrop of mutual recognition and legitimacy.

The declaration legitimized an interfaith dialogue and touched off a major revision of Catholic textbooks, liturgy and sermons which resulted in the deletion of many of the most contemptuous portrayals of Jews as bearing collective responsibility for the crucifixion of Jesus.

Rabbi Solomon Schiff, director of chaplaincy for the Greater Miami Jewish Federation and also a member of the Jewish delegation which met with the Pope in Miami, said, "Vatican II recognized that Jews cannot be held accountable for the crucifixion." One significant revision of the liturgy was removing the term "perfidious Jews" from the traditional Catholic Easter service commemorating the resurrection of Jesus. "It may seem like a small thing, but it's a step," Schiff said.

"Historically, the liturgy speaks of Jews in derogatory terms and this led to pogroms, persecutions and ultimately, the Holocaust . . . You can't undo 2,000 years of a very unhappy relationship in 20 years. The only thing you could hope for is to turn the tide around," he said. On the darker side of the nascent Catholic-Jewish dialogue lies incidents like the Waldheim audience, Schiff said. "The Waldheim meeting gives credence to many revisionists who preach that the Holocaust never happened. When the Pope meets with Waldheim, it could give the signal that there's nothing wrong with recognizing former Nazis, and it casts doubt on Waldheim's guilt. "The revisionists are looking for straws to build their straw

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house, and the Waldheim meeting was a straw," Schiff said. But the Pope's failure to condemn Waldheim or Nazi war crimes and the added pain for Jews upon hearing the Pope praise Waldheim as a man of peace does not stand out as aberrant in the Vatican's various interpretations of the Holocaust's meaning. Schiff noted that the Catholic Church's beatification of Edith Stein, a Jew who converted to Catholicism and later died in Auschwitz, represents "confusion and distortion of the Holocaust." Stein was murdered because she was a Jew, Schiff said. But she was made into a martyr for Catholics.

Mark Freedman, American Jewish Congress executive director of the Southeast region, said the greatest progress in Catholic- Jewish relations since Vatican II has been the document's impact on church institutions. "Change has been visible," he said. One area of great progress has been in the Catholic-Jewish dialogue which Freedman called "productive and fruitful."

On the other side, the pre-Vatican II theology and literature depicting Jews negatively still exists," he said. "There is still a great deal to be done in education relating to that doctrine. We can still see instances of quoting the gospels," but a great deal of the texts, liturgies and sermons have been revised, he said.

Four Significant Areas Of Progress

Arthur Teitelbaum, Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith Southern area director, said the recent exchanges between the Vatican and Jewish leaders have produced four significant areas of progress:

*The Vatican has indicated a willingness to raise the meetings with the Jewish community to a level of greater importance by assuring the participation of its Secretary of State.

*The Pope has stated no theological reason exists as an obstacle to normalizing relations with Israel. The Church has cited two major political obstacles to formal diplomatic relations with Israel: a resolution to the Palestinian question and concern over the security of Christian communities in Middle East countries. But political obstacles are easier to overcome than theological ones.

*The promise of a Papal encyclical within 12 to 24 months stating the Church's position on contemporary anti-Semitism, the Church's role in anti-Semitism and its relation to the Holocaust.

*The Vatican has agreed that in the future the exchanges with Jewish groups will be regular and not only when a crisis arises.

"We understand that the Church moves in incremental ways," Teitelbaum said. "We expect evolutionary, not revolutionary change."

THE MIAMI MEETING AS A MEDIA EVENT
By Lisa Palmieri-Billig (Rome)
and Hugh Orgel (Tel Aviv)

Sept. 13 (JTA) -- In Israel, the center of Judaism, and in Rome, the seat of the Catholic Church, reaction to Pope John Paul II's exchange with American Jewish officials in Miami Friday morning was confined largely to the media.

There was no official comment in Jerusalem where the consensus seems to be that the Miami encounter was yet another event in the continuing Jewish-Catholic dialogue, which in itself produced no changes, particularly with respect to the issue of Vatican recognition of the Jewish State. According to Dr. Yitzhak Minervi, one of Israel's foremost authorities on Israel-Vatican relations, there was no breakthrough. In an interview published in Haaretz Sunday, Minervi suggested that the Pope's meeting with the Jewish delegation at the very start of his American tour was aimed at improving the Vatican's image in American eyes, since it was tarnished after his meeting last June with Austrian President Kurt Waldheim.

In Rome, there was a notable contrast between the general press and the official Vatican newspaper, Osservatore Romano, handling of the Pope's meeting with the Jewish leaders. The latter devoted an entire page to the event, with liberal quotes from the speech by Rabbi Mordecai Waxman who was selected to speak for the American Jewish community.

The general press carried such headlines as "Hard Confrontation," "Harsh Dialogue," and "Polemics Between the Pope and Jews in the U.S." Some correspondents saw the Pope's reference to the rights of the Palestinian people to a homeland as an expression of the real "pre-condition" for Vatican recognition of Israel.

A headline in Osservatore Romano read, "By Meditating On The Terrible Suffering of the Shoah, the Church Increasingly Recognizes its Ties With Jews." The paper explained that the American Jewish community is the largest in the world and the Catholic-Jewish dialogue, especially since Vatican Council II, "has become intense and fruitful."

According to the Vatican organ, "It is a dialogue of faith whose aims are the search for greater fidelity to the respective paths of believers in a common commitment of witness to the holy name of God and a mission of peace for mankind. On a local level, the cooperation in religious and educational fields is very fruitful, for example, prayer texts are produced together, without however creating erroneous confusions."

Two excerpts of the Pope's speech were set off in boxes: "The differences in faith must not become motives for discord but rather open the path for reconciliation" and "History will reveal even more intensely how Pius XII worked in favor of the Jewish people during the second World War." Most of Rabbi Waxman's speech was published in Italian translation.

Dr. Minervi, author of the standard work, "The Vatican, The Holy Land and Zionism", observed in his interview that "The Pope repeated what he had said before. For instance, what he had to say Friday about the Palestinians, he said at his Otranto address in 1980, but he added at that time that the Palestinians lost their homeland because of the establishment of Israel," Minervi noted "He has also mentioned Jewish rights to a homeland several times in the past, such as in his papal letter on Jerusalem in 1984, when he also said that the Palestinians should also be granted their rights."

According to Minervi, there are no theological reasons why the Vatican should not recognize Israel. Non-recognition now is the result of world and regional politics, not religious questions, he said.The Jerusalem Post said in an editorial Sunday that the significance of the Miami meeting was limited. "It was an event which broke no new ground, but by its very occurrence signalled a pragmatic interest in quiet co-existence," the paper said. The Post added, "It is well, therefore, for Israel and the Jewish people, too, to reduce expectations. So the Vatican is not yet ready to establish diplomatic relations with Israel. So what? . . . ."

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JTA SEPTEMBER 14, 1987 -4- DAILY NEWS BULLETIN

A LESSON IN ECUMENISM
By Rochelle Saidel

NEW YORK, Sept. 13 (JTA) -- Jewish leaders talking with Pope John Paul II in Rome and Miami about issues of Catholic-Jewish relations, including the Pope's June meeting with Austrian President Kurt Waldheim, might consider as a model the climate of Catholic-Jewish understanding that has emerged in Brazil, the world's most populous Catholic country.

Waldheim has been accused of Nazi war crimes and placed on a U.S. Justice Department "Watch List" which bars his entrance into this country.

In Brazil, with some 117 million Catholics and about 150,000 Jews, Rabbi Henry Sobel coordinates the National Commission for Catholic-Jewish Dialogue, which is sponsored by the National Bishops' Conference of Brazil (CNBB) and composed of five Jewish and five Catholic leaders.

Sobel is the rabbi of Congregacao Israelita Paulista in Sao Paulo, a Liberal synagogue (affiliated with the World Union for Progressive Judaism) which has a membership of 2,000 families and is the largest in Latin America.

Asked to comment on the Rome and Miami meetings, Sobel told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency in a telephone interview: "Whatever I say, I can only say from the perspective of interfaith relations in Brazil. Catholic-Jewish dialogue is thriving in our country. Our 'Guidebook for Catholic-Jewish Dialogue in Brazil,' published last year by the CNBB, recognizes the "right of the Jews to a peaceful political existence in their land of origin, a right which fulfills itself in the State of Israel'."

The guide, which was distributed in December 1986 to Brazil's 229 Catholic archdioceses and dioceses, covers such subjects as Israel, Jewish history, the Holocaust, roots of anti-Semitism, Judaism in Brazil, and interfaith cooperation.

The introduction to the guide says its objective is "helping Catholics in Brazil to better understand the historical, religious and national aspirations of the Jewish people." Sobel said, "The National Bishops' Conference of Brazil is definitely one step ahead of the Vatican." In April 1987 Sobel accompanied the president of the CNBB on an official trip to Israel.

A Case Of One Blunder

Asked about the Pope's meeting with Waldheim, Sobel said: "The Pope, no matter how important he may be in the Catholic hierarchy, is only a human being. And human beings make mistakes. It was wrong for the Pope to receive Mr. Waldheim; many Catholics in Brazil with whom I have a close personal and working relationship share this opinion. But the ecumenical cause is greater than any one individual, and we cannot let one blunder set back 22 years of progress."

The 22 years refers to the publication in 1965 of "Nostra Aetate," which was a major step forward in Catholic-Jewish understanding. In November 1985, to mark the 20th anniversary of this document, the first Pan-American Conference on Catholic-Jewish relations was held in Sao Paulo, under the sponsorship of the CNBB.

Seven resolutions were adopted, including one that stated "Zionism is not racism," to mark the 10th anniversary of the United Nations General Assembly's adoption of the infamous Zionism equals racism resolution.

Dom Paulo Evaristo Arns, Cardinal Archbishop of Sao Paulo, the world's largest archdiocese, told the JTA: "We, Catholics and Jews in Brazil, join our brothers and sisters in the United States and all people of good will in the hope that the Miami meeting on September 11 will be successful and will bear worldwide fruits, with the blessings of God. Catholics and Jews are united more than ever before here in Brazil, and we hope the same will be true elsewhere. I pray for peace in the world and for the efforts of all people who strive for an understanding between peoples."

Sobel said: "We in Brazil are determined to move on as enthusiastically as ever, and we hope and trust that other countries will follow suit, so that the echo of our labors can be heard loud and clear in the Vatican. I am convinced that the more opportunities we have to talk with each other, to share our satisfactions and give vent to our frustrations, the more we will consolidate our rapprochement. All of us committed to interfaith dialogue and action in Brazil have a stake in the success of the Pope's meetings with Jewish leaders. Let us not look back. Let us look ahead."

SOVIETS WILL ALLOW 5 MORE LONG-TERM REFUSENIKS TO LEAVE

NEW YORK, Sept. 13 (JTA) -- Five more long-term Jewish refuseniks and their families have received permission to emigrate from the Soviet Union and will soon go to Israel, the Long Island Committee for Soviet Jewry (LICSJ) reported Friday.

The five -- Lev Elbert of Kiev; Lev Furman, Yosef Radomyslsky and Abba Taratuta, all of Leningrad; and Anna Lichterova of Moscow -- were all first refused permission to emigrate more than 10 years ago.

Their permission follows the announcement last week that four other long-term refuseniks including losif Begun and Viktor Brailovsky also would be allowed to emigrate. In addition, it was reported last week that Australian Soviet Jewry activist Isi Leibler had accepted an official invitation to spend Rosh Hashanah in Moscow as a guest of the Jewish community center there.

He is believed to be the first non-rabbi involved in international Jewish affairs to receive a formal invitation from the USSR in the Gorbachev era.

More than 300 Jews who became refuseniks at least 10 years ago remain in the USSR, according to Lynn Singer, LICSJ executive director. She considered the latest releases as a bid "to get rid of the stars, to take the pressure off" before Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze's upcoming talks with U.S. leaders.

Sen. Lawton Chiles (D. Fla.), who worked for the release of the Taratutas, felt the same way. He told the JTA Friday that "part of this is pre-summit, and there's still another half million people there who want to get out."

Chiles spoke with the Taratutas by phone last May 3 from a Florida synagogue and said he then induced the entire Florida Congressional delegation to write to Soviet leaders on behalf of the Taratutas and initiated phone calls to Soviet officials. He said he didn't know if his efforts helped the Taratutas, and noted he would try to help other families seeking to emigrate.

He said the U.S. must continue to place human rights issues at the top of the agenda with the Soviets.

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ISRAEL AND HUNGARY SIGN ACCORD TO ESTABLISH INTEREST SECTIONS

By Tamar Levy

GENEVA, Sept. 14 (JTA) -- Israel and Hungary signed an agreement in Bern Monday morning to establish interest sections in their respective countries. It is the lowest level of diplomatic representation but could be a precursor to stronger ties in the future.

The signing ceremonies, which lasted an hour, were held in private. At the request of the Hungarians, no media was allowed. The Israeli participants were Yeshayahu Anug, Deputy Director General of the Foreign MInistry, legal adviser Victor Harel, and Israel's Ambassador to Switzerland, David Rivlin.

Hungary was represented by Yanos Goros, head of the legal department at the Foreign Ministry, and Wilmos Kopanyi, head of the political section.

A First Step

Anug told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that Israel accepted the Hungarian position that this should be a first step and not normalization of full diplomatic relations. Israel decided to have something rather than say "We want everything or nothing," Anug said.

He added that Israel has to be practical and develop new economic, cultural and tourist relations with Hungary. He said both sides spoke openly of the limitations which, for the time being, do not permit deeper relations.

Hungary has followed the footsteps of Poland which established an interests section in Tel Aviv earlier this year. Israel simultaneously set up an interests section in Warsaw. Apart from Rumania, they are the only Communist-bloc countries to re-establish any form of diplomatic relations with Israel since they severed ties during the 1967 Six-Day War. Rumania alone never broke with Israel and the two countries maintain full diplomatic relations on the ambassadorial level.

Last spring a Soviet consular delegation visited Israel for the first time to review the status of Soviet nationals there and inspect Soviet property. They rented an office in Ramat Gan which some observers believed would become the nucleus of a permanent consular establishment.

This has not yet transpired and the Soviets have refused to allow Israel to send a similar delegation to the USSR.

The ceremonies in Bern were also attended by the Swedish Ambassador to Switzerland whose country represents Hungarian interests in Israel. Reporters remarked that the Hungarians emerging from the ceremony looked grim, "more like returning from a funeral."

FRENCH RIGHTWING LEADER EXPRESSES SKEPTICISM ABOUT THE HOLOCAUST

By Edwin Eytan

PARIS, Sept. 14 (JTA) -- French Jewry is outraged and alarmed by rightwing leader Jean Marie Le Pen's claim in a nationally broadcast radio interview Sunday night that the Holocaust, if it indeed occurred, has been exaggerated and in any event was only a footnote to history. Le Pen, who spoke on Radio Luxembourg, heads the extreme rightwing National Front which won 10 percent of the vote in last year's legislative elections and has 32 Deputies in the French National Assembly. He has declared himself a candidate in the Presidential elections next year.

The National Front is believed to be a cover for several French "revisionist" historians who maintain that the Holocaust was a Jewish invention. Le Pen himself has a record of rabid racism and veiled anti-Semitism. He adamantly denies being an anti-Semite and complains that his remarks are "misinterpreted."

In the radio interview he said, "I don't say they (the gas chambers) never existed but I have never seen any myself. Moreover, I think this (whole question) is a mere detail in the history of the Second World War." He added, "There were many (Jewish) dead, hundreds of thousands, maybe millions. But non-Jews also died."

The Representative Council of Major French Jewish Organizations (CRIF) said Monday that Le Pen betrayed his trust as a member of Parliament. Louis Mermaz, former President of the National Assembly, said he would ask the assembly's Ethics Committee to investigate his remarks and "draw its own conclusions."

REAGAN PLEDGES TO PRESS THE ISSUE OF SOVIET JEWRY IN MEETING WITH USSR F.M.

By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, Sept. 14 (JTA) -- President Reagan pledged Monday to continue pressing the "plight of Soviet Jews" in his meeting with Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze and at any summit meeting with Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev.

In a letter read by Micah Naftalin, Washington representative of the Union of Councils for Soviet Jews (UCSJ) to the UCSJ's annual meeting here, Reagan also said: "Let me assure you that I and the whole of my Administration support the continuation of the Jackson-Vanik and Stevenson Amendments and shall scrupulously abide by their provisions."

Reagan's stress on support of the legislation which links trade with increased Jewish emigration from the Soviet Union was apparently in a reply to a letter from Naftalin and UCSJ president Pamela Cohen expressing concern about his nomination of William Verity, Jr., as Secretary of Commerce.

Verity, a former steel company executive, has expressed opposition to Jackson-Vanik in the past. At his confirmation hearing last week, he said he supports Jackson-Vanik, although he has reservations about its effectiveness.

Reagan is scheduled to meet Shevardnadze Tuesday before the Soviet official begins three days of talks with Secretary of State George Shultz. The meetings are expected to lead to a Reagan-Gorbachev summit later this year.

"I shall press for major improvements in the plight of Soviet Jews and for full freedom of emigration, just as I have in previous meetings," Reagan said in his letter to the UCSJ. "We shall maintain constructive political pressure, the

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pressure of public opinion, of allied governments, and of a courageous Jewish community within the USSR, buoyed by our support. We must preserve and use the instruments of policy that advance the cause."

Reagan noted that there have been some recent "positive steps" by Soviet leaders with the release of some political prisoners and increased Jewish emigration.

"We applaud these moves because they inspire hope for more progress which we wish to encourage," the President said. "But these positive steps are not only far from enough, their timing and nature suggest a quest for diplomatic effect, not justice. And they coexist with ominous indicators of possible future tightening of emigration and of a growth in anti-Semitism in some quarters."

'A Manipulative Policy'

Reagan's words were echoed by his National Security Council's director of European and Soviet Affairs, Fritz Ermarth, in a speech to the UCSJ Monday.

The recent Soviet action is "so transparently a manipulative policy" that "it contains an implicit threat that it could be reversed, that it could be turned off, that it springs from a mentality that regards people as hostages and material for political and diplomatic bargaining," Ermarth said.

"We are looking for justice, not gestures," he stressed. "We will take the gestures appreciatively, but it can't stop there."

Ermarth warned that the policy of "glasnost" which is causing political, economic and social "turbulence" in the USSR presents a danger for Soviet Jews. He said it is already resulting in "popular anti-Semitism" and may also lead to "official and sub rosa victimization and scapegoating."

At the same time, Ermarth noted that "attention to the plight faced by Soviet Jews has done more than any other single phenomenon in the past decade-and-a-half to register on the thinking of Americans and the world as a whole that the internal nature of the Soviet system and its external behavior are intimately linked...It is thus vital that we maintain that appreciation in the years ahead."

PROMINENT HERUT FIGURES REVOLTED BY DEKEL'S PLAN TO TRANSFER PALESTINIANS

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Sept. 14 (JTA) -- Prominent Herut figures have recoiled in disgust from a proposal by Deputy Defense Minister Michael Dekel of Herut for the mass transfer of Palestinians to the Arab countries as a solution to Israel's demographic problems.

One of the most outspoken critics is Benyamin Zeev Begin, son of former Premier Menachem Begin, who told a Herut symposium here Sunday that Dekel's ideas "blurred the distinctions between Herut and that ghastly phenomenon represented by Meir Kahane," leader of the extremist Kach Party.

The younger Begin, a geologist, insisted on a television interview later that he spoke for himself, not his father, when he made political pronouncements. But the two Begins are known to be very close in their views.

He said Dekel's "words thrown into the air, have their own dynamics...In the eyes of a portion of the population -- especially the youth -- the dividing line between Kahane's proposals and Dekel's are thin indeed. Some might say let's go for the original and vote for Kahane."

Kahane advocates the ouster of all Arabs from Israel and the administered territories and legal bans on intermarriage and sexual relations between Jews and Arabs. Begin said he felt "nausea" when he heard Dekel's ideas.

Dekel Insulted By The Comparison

Dekel said he was "shocked, disappointed and deeply insulted" by Begin's comparison of his views to Kahane's. He had offered a "non-operative political plan for the future" to resettle 500,000 Palestinian refugees from Israel's 1948 War of Independence in Arab countries. He would give Arabs in the administered territories a choice between "full citizenship and allegiance to the State of Israel" or emigration "not by coercion by international agreement."

His plan was also assailed by Eliahu Ben-Elissar who was Israel's first Ambassador to Egypt and by Herut Central Committee member Moshe Amiram. Ben-Elissar called it "immoral and impractical." Amiram said Dekel's proposal "smacked of Zionist defeatism."

"You have given up on the Jewish transfer. You can't get the Jew from Beverly Hills to come (to Israel) so you want to send the Arabs away from Gaza," he said.

ISRAELI INVOLVED IN IRAN/CONTRA SCANDAL FIRED FROM HIS JOB

JERUSALEM, Sept. 14 (JTA) -- Amiram Nir, the Israeli who allegedly set up the sale of U.S. arms to Iran and arranged diversion of the proceeds to the Nicaraguan rebels known as Contras, was fired Friday as Premier Yitzhak Shamir's advisor on counter-terrorism, Israel Radio reported.

According to Israel Radio, his dismissal and that of several other officials was part of an agreement signed when Shamir took over the office of Premier under the Labor-Likud rotation of power agreement last October. The Iran-Contra arms sales scandal broke the following month.

U.S. reports said Nir travelled to Teheran to arrange for the sale of American-manufactured arms to Iran. Lt. Col. Oliver North, the former aide to then National Security Adviser Adm. John Poindexter, testified before the Senate-House joint committee last spring that Nir initiated the transfer of funds from the arms sale to the Contras.

Yaacov Nimrodi, an Israeli middleman fired by Nir before the transaction was completed, told the newspaper Hadashot that Nir was responsible for the "bottom-ups" that thwarted the purported purpose of the arms deal--release of hostages held by pro-Iranian groups in Lebanon.

NISSIM EXPLAINS WHY THE LAVI HAD TO GO

MONTREAL, Sept. 14 (JTA) -- Israel's Finance Minister Moshe Nissim told an audience of Jewish leaders here Saturday night that it was only "after a long period of the most difficult deliberations" that he concluded that Israel's Lavi jet fighterplane project had to be abandoned.

That decision made him "tremble with sorrow at the loss of a large and important national project that would have put us in the first line of high-tech countries," he said. But as painful as it was, Nissim stressed to 500 American and Can-

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adian Jewish leaders at a dinner at the 1987 Israel Bond North American Leadership Conference at the Queen Elizabeth Hotel here, Israel will benefit economically and militarily from the decision.

Nissim also outlined to the Jewish leaders Israel's long-term economic goal which is "privatization and liberalization of Israel's economy," to make it attractive to investors at home and abroad.

Nissim, a Likud Liberal, drew the wrath of many of his party colleagues when he joined the Labor Party Ministers in a 12-11 vote August 30 to scuttle the Lavi project. He explained here the decision was based solely on the needs of the country.

Cancellation of the Lavi will benefit the economy and strengthen the Israel Defense Force with new, sophisticated weapons systems which will be developed in Israel, he said.

"The advantage these weapons will give Israel in any future war will be greater than the difference between the Lavi and the F-16C planes" which the U.S. has offered to sell Israel as a replacement for the Lavi, Nissim said.

"Continued development and production of the aircraft (Lavi) would have necessitated an additional financial outlay each year of hundreds of millions of dollars," Nissim stated. "Such a large expenditure would have halted the progress of economic growth and could even have caused our economy to regress. Security and economic considerations together made me take this difficult and painful decision."

Speaking of Israel's economic condition in general, Nissim said "Confidence in the Israeli economy on the part of both the public and the international financial community has grown. Not long ago, we were begging banks to grant us loans on disadvantageous conditions. But now the banks run after us to offer loans on very good conditions," Nissim said.

He noted that the International Monetary Fund (IMF) has singled out Israel as the country most successful in the application of an economic stabilization program. He acknowledged that Israel still faces economic difficulties.

The two main threats are expansion of the government's budget and demands for wage increases, he said. But the austerity program adopted by the unity government has withstood them to the extent that the fiscal year 1986 ended with the first budget surplus in the country's history.

Nissim referred to his recent appointment of the First Boston Bank as a consultant to the government on the sale of "government-owned corporations to private interests. "The Bank will appraise" the sale of some 30 government corporations, he said.

The aim is "to create a new climate in which investors will find the State of Israel attractive with a liberal economy where the free market will governed by the private sector and subjected to international forces," the Finance Minister said.

REPORT SAYS ISRAEL IS TURNING TERRITORIES INTO 'POLICE STATE'

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Sept. 14 (JTA) -- Demographic expert Meron Benvenisti warned in a newly-published report that Israel may be turning the administered territories into a "police state"by the seemingly innocent device of establishing a computer data bank on their inhabitants.

Benvenisti, a former Deputy Mayor of Jerusalem, heads the West Bank Data Base project which monitors demographic changes there and in the Gaza Strip resulting from Jewish settlement.

He reiterated in his latest annual report his contention that Jewish settlement of the territory already amounts to an irreversible annexation. He added that the greater involvement of Jordan in West Bank affairs during the past year has contributed to formalizing the political status quo and legitimizing it.

"This means the Jordanians have given Israel a free hand in the de facto annexation of the Israeli enclaves in the West Bank and unlimited construction in them," Benvenisti said at a press conference over the weekend. "This is being done through a joint Israeli-Jordanian rule over the Palestinian population. This partnership is guided by a common interest -- the struggle against the PLO."

According to Benvenisti, King Hussein of Jordan is not interested in regaining the West Bank but to protect the east bank from dangers posed by the Palestinians living in his own kingdom. "Therefore, he prefers an Israeli Defense Minister in the territories over a Jordanian Defense Minister," Benvenisti said.

Danger Of Computerization

But he expressed serious concern that computerization of the territory by the Israeli civil administration could be "a real danger to civil rights in the territory."

"The civil administration can turn the computers into a system of carrots and sticks which would turn the territories into a total police state," Benvenisti warned. He explained that personal data on each inhabitant, locked into the computer, could divide "friendlies" from "hostiles" and "every little official" would be able to deprive people of their civil rights on the basis of computer printouts.

He said data could be used to deny applicants driver's licenses or to deprive them of water. It is easy to do so in a system which is not subjected to the checks and balances of every democratic system, Benvenisti said.

Jewish settlers in the territory are protected by Israeli law. Palestinian residents are governed by the civil administration and the military since the Defense Minister has overall responsibility for the territories.

Civil administration sources rejected Benvenisti's warning. They said computerization was intended to provide the entire population with better services.

Benvenisti's report quoted Shmuel Goren, former coordinator of government affairs in the territories, who told a Knesset Committee that Israel no longer subsidizes the territories. According to Benvenisti, this means that $80 million paid annually by local residents in direct and indirect taxes has not been returned to them but kept by the Israeli Treasury.

His report also predicted that by the year 2000, Jews will constitute 55-57 percent of the population of Israel and by 2010, the Jewish and Arab populations will be equal.

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42ND SESSION OF THE UN ASSEMBLY: ANOTHER OPENING, ANOTHER ONSLAUGHT

By Yitzhak Rabi

UNITED NATIONS, Sept. 14 (JTA) -- Despite the escalating war between Iran and Iraq and the growing danger that the seven-year-old hostilities between the two countries might engulf the whole region in flames, the 42nd session of the United Nations General Assembly is expected to devote little time, if any, to this cruel and costly war that has already claimed the lives of hundreds of thousands of people.

Instead, the Assembly, which opens here September 15, will continue its "tradition" of passing scores of anti-Israeli resolutions and spending valuable time -- and money -- on hearing venomous speeches against the Jewish State and, at times, against the whole Jewish people.

Diplomats and UN officials said here this week that it is almost certain that the Arabs would try to oust Israel from the General Assembly by proposing, as they have been doing unsuccessfully in recent years, to deny Israel its credentials.

Last year the proposal to deny Israel's credentials was sponsored by the Arab League. It was defeated by a vote of 86-41. "Despite the fact that the attempt to oust Israel is defeated repeatedly, we expect the extremists among the Arab states to take the same initiative again. Maybe Iran will take the lead against Israel this year," an Israeli diplomat said.

The diplomat pointed out that while moderate Arab countries, such as Jordan, Oman and Morocco are known to oppose Israel's ouster, they are, nonetheless, compelled to join the move in a show of Arab solidarity and patriotism.

Rule Of The Soviet Union

"What concerns us most, however," the Israeli diplomat said, "is that the Soviet Union has been voting every year in support of Israel's suspension. On the one hand, the USSR demands to participate in an international peace conference on the Mideast, to be held under UN sponsorship. On the other hand, Moscow votes to deny Israel's credentials and oust it from the General Assembly. This is an absurdity," the Israeli diplomat said.

Israel, the diplomat disclosed, has already discussed this "contradictory situation" with Soviet officials. "We expect them to show their good will this year and actively oppose the Arab move," the diplomat said.

Campaign Against International Terrorism

Israel plans to launch a major campaign against international terrorism in this year's Assembly. To begin with, Israel will distribute at the beginning of the Assembly session a newly-compiled booklet listing all the acts of terror and violence that took place in the Middle East in the past year. According to Eyal Arad, Israel's spokesperson at the UN, the booklet will consist of "tens of pages with a list of hundreds of terrorists acts committed in the last year in the Mideast."

Arad said that the purpose of the booklet is "to demonstrate to the world that the problems of the Mideast as a region are not all the result of the Arab-Israeli conflict. There are many other problems in the Mideast -- Iran-Iraq conflict, Lebanon, Chad and Libya -- and the UN must realize that it must stop its obsession with Israel and turn and deal with the other issues facing the Mideast."

Israel will also confront, during the three-month-long Assembly, an attempt by Syria to use Arab voting power in the UN to define the term "terrorism."

Syria has proposed the convening of "an international conference to define terrorism and differentiate it from the struggle of peoples for national liberation."

The Syrian proposal will be discussed by the UN Legal Committee (the Sixth Committee) which is headed this year by none other than Libya. The irony here, of course, is that both Syria and Libya are known for participating in acts of international terrorism. Both governments were implicated by European courts for participating in terrorist acts.

"The Syrians are trying to legitimize terrorism," a Western diplomat said. The Israeli government has started to campaign against the Syrian ploy at the UN and various Western capitals. According to diplomats and observers here, the Syrians are likely to have a sufficient number of votes to support their view of terrorism.

The Israelis are hopeful that a trend that has been developing in recent years will continue in the course of this Assembly as well. "There is a growing decline in support for Arab anti-Israeli resolutions at the UN, a decline that amounts to 10 percent every year," Arad said. "We hope to witness the same process this year," he said.

Meetings Begin Sept. 21

The Assembly begins its general debate, the most illustrious part of the session, attended by scores of heads of states and hundreds of high-ranking diplomats, on Monday, Sept. 21. President Reagan will address the Assembly that day to be followed the next day by Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze.

Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres will address the Assembly Sept. 29. Peres, however, is scheduled to arrive in New York on Sept. 20 for a 10-day visit here during which he will meet with Shevardnadze, Secretary of State George Shultz, and other diplomats who will be here to attend the Assembly.

The Israeli delegation to the Assembly, headed by Binyamin Netanyahu, Israel's UN Ambassador, will be strengthened by new diplomats for the duration of the session, bringing its size to about 20 members.

* * *

BONN (JTA) -- For the first time in German radio history, audiences in the Federal Republic will soon be able to hear productions in the Yiddish language, spokesmen for Westdeutscher Rundfunk (WDR) announced recently in Cologne.

Four plays in Yiddish, ranging from a mystery to a musical, will be broadcast over a 12-month period. The series opens on October 6 with the mystery, "Dybbuk," which was produced by Polish Radio in Warsaw.

According to WDR spokesmen, the four productions cost approximately DM 100,000 ($55,000) to produce and will be continued if there is a positive response from the public. Stations in Israel, Switzerland and Austria are also participating in the project.

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AUSTRIAN PARTIES REPORTEDLY LOOKING FOR POSSIBLE SUCCESSORS TO WALDHEIM

By Reinhard Engel

VIENNA, Dec. 1 (JTA) -- Leaders of the Socialist Party and the conservative Peoples Party were reported this week to be seriously discussing a possible successor to President Kurt Waldheim should he be forced to resign before his term expires.

The two parties comprise Austria's governing coalition. They are waiting for the report of a six-member international commission of military historians presently investigating charges that Waldheim was implicated in the deportation of Greek Jews and in atrocities against civilians and resistance fighters while serving as a German army intelligence officer in the Balkans during World War II.

The commission, headed by Hans Rudolf Kurz of Switzerland, includes historians from the United States, Britain, West Germany, Belgium and Israel. It is expected to present its findings in mid-January.

As the panel convened here Monday for its third meeting, the local branch of the Socialist Party in the state of Tyrol called, at its annual congress, for Waldheim to resign. The Vienna section of the party demanded his resignation last month.

Waldheim, however, is standing fast. After Kurz announced Sunday that the commission would like to question him as a witness, Waldheim said he would not consider its report binding. The commission is not a court, he said, and for the president to bow to the findings of a foreign, non-judicial body would denigrate Austrian sovereignty and set a dangerous precedent.

Growing Uneasiness

His remarks indicated a growing uneasiness on the part of Waldheim and his supporters over the nature of the commission's report. The body, funded by the Austrian government, was installed by Foreign Minister Alois Mock, who is deputy premier and chairman of the Peoples Party, which sponsored Waldheim's successful presidential race in the summer of 1986.

Mock has sought to limit the commission's mandate to a finding of guilt or innocence of the charges brought against Waldheim. But the panel has shown a high degree of independence. Kurz said here Sunday, "We will not judge. We will just say what happened. The politics and the media will have to act."

Waldheim has responded to calls for his resignation by warning in a newspaper interview that it would touch off a state crisis. He used the word "Dolchstosslegende" (stab in the back), implying strongly that it would be at the hands of the Jews.

He attacked politicians of both coalition parties for developing scenarios about what to do in case the commission recommends that he leave office. He noted that while that office is largely ceremonial, he was elected by a majority of the Austrian people. "It certainly won't work like certain gentlemen think it will," he said.

Nevertheless, names are being mentioned as possible successors to Waldheim. The Socialists might propose Helmut Zilk, the newly elected mayor of Vienna. But they are apparently willing to consider a conservative candidate to be elected by the National Assembly, the country's legislative body comprised of both houses of parliament.

One possible candidate who appears acceptable to the Socialists is Alfred Maleta, a staunch conservative who as a Catholic anti-Nazi spent the war years in a concentration camp.

Socialists and conservatives seem to agree that the worst possible outcome would be for Waldheim to stay in office under the shadow of guilt, resulting in the further diplomatic and political isolation of Austria.

GORBACHEV ACCUSES SOVIET JEWRY ACTIVISTS OF ORGANIZING 'BRAIN DRAIN'

NEW YORK, Dec. 1 (JTA) -- Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev, in an interview with NBC News correspondent Tom Brokaw Monday night, assailed America's interest in the struggle of Soviet Jews.

The extraordinary hour-long interview, broadcast nationally, was arranged in light of next week's summit conference between Gorbachev and President Reagan.

Gorbachev claimed the United States is "organizing a brain drain" by pushing for emigration, and the Soviet response is, therefore, one of self-protection. He added that the Soviets "will never accept a condition when the people are exhorted from outside to leave their country."

Appearing defensive, Gorbachev assured Brokaw that the Soviet Union is considering "all the specific individual cases. . . in a very attentive and thorough manner," which, he said, Congress and the president know very well.

Assuring Soviet good will, Gorbachev said his government would "continue in a spirit of humaneness seek to resolve every individual case, but within the framework of our own laws."

Using an unusual phrase for a declared atheist, he warned the United States not to "go into another man's monastery with your own charter."

Gorbachev admitted that family reunification was a problem, and he said "we shall do our best to have those problems resolved."

'State Security' Cited

The Soviet leader cited "state security" reasons when Brokaw asked what Gorbachev thought "man to man" about long delays in the processing of visas for 4,000 Jews, including cancer victims, who wish to be reunited with their families in "their closing days."

Gorbachev claimed there remain "only those who cannot leave because of state security reasons. There are no other reasons, and we will continue to act that way."

In Washington, State Department spokesman Charles Redman disputed this claim at a news conference Tuesday, saying, "There are prospective emigrants who have not done any secret work for 10 or 15 years and they're getting turned down again and again. That's a fact and it's documented."

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Rejoining Gorbachev's parry that Soviet rules of behavior shouldn't be fashioned by outsiders, Redman said that the United States is simply asking the Soviets to live up to the human-rights provisions of the Helsinki Accords.

Redman said that "If indeed those are the views, then there are probably going to be some good exchanges" at the summit.

Responding to Gorbachev's "brain drain" comment, Redman said the Soviets shouldn't attempt to use that as a basis for emigration visa denials, because the right to emigrate "belongs to all people, whether they are intellectuals, workers or any sort of person."

'More Of The Same'

In New York, Alan Pesky, chairman of the Coalition to Free Soviet Jews, said that Gorbachev had offered "more of the same -- and less." He reminded that under Gorbachev, emigration is "only a fraction of what it was" under Soviet leader Leonid Brezhnev.

Persky also cited laws instituted in January "that virtually barred emigration to the vast majority of the tens of thousands of Soviet Jews" who have begun the application process.

Despite Gorbachev's "unique opportunity to make a substantive statement to the American people" about Jewish emigration and human rights, said Pesky, Gorbachev had instead indicated "that his policies are more, not less, restrictive."

Meanwhile, the National Conference on Soviet Jewry announced Tuesday that 910 Soviet Jews emigrated during the month of November. To date, 7,250 Jews have left the Soviet Union this year, compared to a total of 914 for all of 1986, only four short of the November figure.

The figures for May through November reveal a series of ups and downs, with the November tally two less than that for October, and the 912 figure for October contrasting favorably with the 724 Jews who left the Soviet Union in September of this year. In May, 871 Jews emigrated; in June, 796; in July, 819; and in August, 787.

Commenting on November's figure, the NCSJ said, "Jewish emigration has apparently leveled off and in fact fell again for the fourth time this year. This disappointing development indicates that 'glasnost' does not work for the tens of thousands of Soviet Jews who have indicated their desire to leave the USSR."

ARAB WORLD FEARING IMMINENT RETALIATION BY ISRAELI ARMY

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Dec. 1 (JTA) -- The Arabic media here and abroad continued Tuesday to predict imminent massive retaliation by Israel for the glider-borne terrorist attack that killed six soldiers and wounded seven at an Israel Defense Force base in upper Galilee on the night of Nov. 25.

Such retaliation could lead to a serious clash between the IDF and Syrian forces in Lebanon, according to Arab sources in Beirut quoted by Haaretz Tuesday. The sources said an Israeli armored attack can be expected in southern Lebanon to clean out terrorist bases under Syrian protection.

Yediot Achronot reported from Paris that Arab newspaper editors attending a briefing at the Syrian Embassy there were told that "An Israeli attack against Syria or Syrian forces in Lebanon. . . is expected at any moment."

The embassy officials say Syrian forces have been placed on alert in Syria and Lebanon "but no mobilization has been conducted so as not to supply Israel with a pretext for a major operation," Yediot Achronot reported.

The Kuwait newspaper Al-Rai reported Monday that the Romanian ambassador to Israel conveyed a Soviet warning to the Israeli government not to take military action against Syria. The Soviets made clear that Syria does not stand alone, the newspaper reported.

Sources in Beirut claimed that Israeli air attacks are expected against Palestine Liberation Organization bases in Lebanon. Other sources including radio stations and the Kuwaiti news agency reported that Israeli jets conducted simulated attacks Monday over Sidon and PLO camps in southern Lebanon and that Israeli naval vessels are patrolling the southern Lebanon coast.

IDF Units On High Alert

Haaretz reported Tuesday that IDF units on both sides of the Lebanon border have been placed on high alert, and so has the Israel-backed South Lebanon Army.

Apart from warning of an Israeli military strike at targets in Lebanon, Arabic newspapers continue to hail the "daring action" of the lone terrorist who wrought havoc at the IDF encampment near Kiryat Shemona a week ago.

The Egyptian newspaper Al-Ahbar claimed that the blow by the Palestinians against the "rulers of Tel Aviv" proves to Israel that the IDF cannot defend it.

Meanwhile, kibbutzim and moshavim all over Galilee have demanded that the government immediately install cable television and radio facilities in their settlements to serve in emergencies as a source of information for the civilian population and the military. So far, only one kibbutz in the Galilee panhandle has a closed-circuit television system.

The Communications Ministry promised to install cable TV in Kiryat Shemona, which was closest to the area of the glider attack and has long been a target of terrorist rocket attacks and incursions from Lebanon. Now other settlements in the region are demanding the same facilities.

IDF SOLDIER WOUNDED ON EGYPTIAN BORDER

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Dec. 1 (JTA) -- An Israel Defense Force soldier was slightly wounded in a rare but disturbing incident along the normally peaceful Israeli-Egyptian border Monday night.

The incident occurred shortly after midnight, when an IDF patrol investigating a breach in the border fence was attacked by unidentified men who threw two hand grenades and opened fire with light weapons, according to a military spokesman. The soldier wounded by the gunfire was hospitalized.

The patrol later found the footprints of two men leading to the fence and back to Egyptian territory.

Israel formally informed Egypt of the occurrence. A spokesman for the Egyptian Embassy in Tel Aviv dismissed it as of little consequence.

The spokesman told Voice of Israel Radio Tuesday that this was a "routine incident of infiltration which happens sometimes on borders between countries."

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COURT TURNS DOWN APPEAL IN CASE ON SILENT PRAYER IN SCHOOLS

By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, Dec. 1 (JTA) -- A U.S. Appeals Court ruling that struck down a New Jersey law requiring a minute of silence in public schools for "private contemplation and introspection" remains in effect, because the Supreme Court decided Tuesday not to deal with the case on technical grounds.

The 8-0 decision on the case of Karcher vs. May, written by Justice Sandra O'Connor, said that Alan Karcher, former speaker of the New Jersey State Assembly, and Carmen Orechio, former president of the state Senate, could not appeal the lower court decision, because they no longer held the leadership posts in the legislature.

Mark Pelavin, Washington representative of the American Jewish Congress, one of several Jewish organizations that filed briefs in support of the lower court ruling, welcomed the court decision.

"We are very pleased by the result in this case, although the opinion dealt only with the technical issues of leaving intact a favorable lower court ruling," Pelavin said.

Last Case Was In 1985

He noted the only time the Supreme Court has ruled on silent prayer was in 1985 when it declared unconstitutional an Alabama law providing for a minute of silence for "meditation and voluntary prayer."

The New Jersey law was adopted in December 1982 when the legislature overrode a veto by Gov. Thomas Kean. Jeffrey May, a school teacher, along with several parents and students, filed a suit the following January challenging the constitutionality of the law.

When neither Kean nor his attorney general would defend the suit, Karcher and Orechio, decided to defend it in their capacities as leaders of the legislature. But when the Court of Appeals handed down its decision, both had lost their leadership jobs, and their successors asked that their names, which had been substituted on the appeal to the Supreme Court, be withdrawn.

Karcher and Orechio then filed an appeal and argued they could do so since they were still members of the legislature.

While silent prayer appears now to be ruled out, the decision may come up before the Supreme Court again because about half of the states have "minute of silence" laws.

SARA LEE DISPUTES BOYCOTT CHARGES THAT COULD LEAD TO $2 MILLION IN FINES

By Andrew Silow Carroll

NEW YORK, Dec. 1 (JTA) -- The Chicago-based Sara Lee Corporation is calling "misleading and grossly exaggerated" Commerce Department charges that it violated anti-boycott provisions of the Export Administration Act.

The 10-year-old act prohibits American firms from cooperating with foreign boycotts that are directed at countries friendly to the United States. Most Arab countries boycott Israeli goods and services and maintain a blacklist of countries and persons doing business with Israel.

Sara Lee has not been charged with boycotting Israel or Israeli firms. However, the Commerce Department "believes that in providing information about its business ties, Sara Lee was furthering the Arab boycott of Israel in a manner prohibited by Congress," according to Donald Creed, a Commerce Department spokesman.

According to a charging letter issued Nov. 19, the Commerce Department's Office of Anti-boycott Compliance (OAC) alleges that Sara Lee provided 235 items of boycott-related information in connection with a 1982 application to register the corporation's L'eggs trademark in Kuwait and other Arab countries.

The department also alleges that the company provided information about its subsidiaries' relationships with Israel, or with companies blacklisted because of their relationship with Israel.

Fines Could Total $2.35 Million

Sanctions of up to $10,000 per violation -- a potential penalty of up to $2.35 million -- could be assessed against Sara Lee and its export privileges could be denied if the company is found to have breached the law.

The largest penalty in the history of the Export Administration Act was $381,000, imposed in August against NCR Corporation for 266 alleged violations.

But fines totaling $4 million are pending against the Oakland-based Safeway supermarket chain, which was charged in July with 449 violations of the anti-boycott law, in connection with its operation of supermarket chains in Saudi Arabia and Kuwait. That case is currently before a Commerce Department administrative law judge.

According to Gordon Newman, Sara Lee senior vice president and general counsel, Sara Lee is charged with violating "complex and highly technical" anti-boycott regulations when it transmitted four documents to the Kuwaiti and other Arab officials.

Of the 235 alleged violations, said Newman, 229 are based on only two documents in which Sara Lee listed the names and nationalities of 39 corporate officers or board members and the names of its 190 subsidiaries.

The information, said Newman, is a matter of public record and is supplied routinely in the company's annual reports and other filings.

OAC Calculation 'Outrageous'

"The OAC's method of calculating the number of violations is outrageous," said Newman.

Sara Lee, which manufactures and markets food and consumer products internationally, was founded in 1939 by the late Nathan Cummings, who was Jewish and after whom a planned addition to the Israel Museum in Jerusalem will be named, according to information provided by Sara Lee.

The corporation has a longstanding agreement with an Israeli firm to manufacture knitwear products for sale in the United States. As a result, Sara Lee has been banned by the Arab League from any business dealings in the Arab countries, according to Newman.

In May, Sara Lee was notified by telephone that the OAC had uncovered violations from 1982, said Newman. According to Creed, a charging letter was issued when attempts to reach a settlement "came to a standstill."

The company has until Dec. 20 to respond to the charges, when the case will be referred to a Commerce Department administrative law judge.

Newman called "not realistic" any attempt on Sara Lee's part to have the charges completely dismissed. Instead, said Newman, the company will

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ask for a substantial reduction of the charges and the size of the penalty.

Between 1980 and 1986, the OAC investigated 1,839 cases of alleged anti-boycott violations, 265 of which resulted in settlements. Charging letters were issued against 25 companies.

According to Will Maslow, general counsel of the American Jewish Congress and editor of its Boycott Report, charges against Sara Lee and other companies in recent months indicate that the OAC is "going after serious violations."

"These are not technicalities," said Mallow, who had not yet seen a copy of the charging letter against Sara Lee. "They show the office is serious about the law and enforcing it to the hilt."

ENVOY SAYS U.S. HAS NOT SHUT DOOR ON INTERNATIONAL PEACE CONFERENCE

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Dec. 1 (JTA) -- The Reagan administration leans toward an international conference to open direct peace talks between Israel and Jordan and other Arab states, United States Ambassador Thomas Pickering indicated Monday night.

Addressing a Labor Party forum in Haifa, the American envoy seemed to support the views of Foreign Minister Shimon Peres over Premier Yitzhak Shamir, who recently claimed that the administration agreed with him that the conference scenario is dead.

Shamir based his belief on remarks attributed to U.S. Defense Secretary Frank Carlucci at a meeting with the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations in Washington on Nov. 11. Peres, for his part, quoted Secretary of State George Shultz as saying an international conference remains a valid option.

Pickering said that both Carlucci and Shultz "are persuaded that Jordan needs an international mechanism to get talks with Israel started." He said Shultz told Shamir only last week that "We don't rule out an international conference."

Pickering's flat statement seemed to bear out Peres' reading of the American position on the issue. The foreign minister was asked by reporters Sunday to comment on Carlucci's remarks as cited by Shamir.

Peres' reply was that obituaries for the international conference scenario were premature -- "wishful thinking" on the part of those opposed to the idea. He made the remark after attending memorial services marking the 14th anniversary of the death of David Ben-Gurion, Israel's first prime minister, at Sde Boker in the Negev.

'No Deadline' For Peace Process

In his remarks the following day, Pickering also said that the United States "had no deadline for the peace process" and denied that it would be suspended because of the American presidential elections next year. "We must move the process ahead," he declared.

He implied criticism of Israel's policies in the administered territories, saying it must do more to improve the quality of life and human rights for the Palestinians under Israeli rule.

"Deportations, administrative detention and home detention, without due process of law, do not meet the standards our two countries share regarding human rights," Pickering said.

He pledged that the American administration will do all it can to honor its commitments of economic aid to Israel and Egypt during the coming year, despite fiscal problems. Concern has been expressed in Israel that the United States may reduce economic and military aid in the process of cutting its huge federal budget deficit.

Pickering was questioned about American intervention to block the deportation of Mubarak Awad, a Jerusalem-born, naturalized American citizen who advocates peaceful resistance to Israel's administration of the territories.

Awad was to have been expelled on Nov. 20, but the order was not carried out, apparently because of complaints from Washington. Pickering said he was "in touch with the (Israeli) government, and our effort is very clear."

JEWS IN ARGENTINA DEMONSTRATE TO PROTEST RISING ANTI-SEMITISM

BUENOS AIRES, Dec. 1 (JTA) -- Tens of thousands of Jewish demonstrators massed in downtown Buenos Aires last week to protest what they see as a rising tide of anti-Semitism in Argentina.

The Jewish community of 250,000 here, by far the largest of any country in Latin America, has been badly shaken by a series of anti-Semitic attacks, including a synagogue bombing and the desecration of cemeteries.

The incidents followed on the heels of the arrest Nov. 13 of fugitive Nazi war criminal Josef Schwammberger, wanted for the mass murder of Jews in Poland during World War II. He was tracked down by Argentine authorities to a hideout in the northern province of Cordoba.

Adding to the alarm and anguish felt by the Jewish community was the recent discovery of the remains of two Jewish businessmen lying side-by-side in a grove outside Buenos Aires. The victims were Osvaldo Sivak and Benjamin Neuman, kidnapped in 1982. A former police inspector has admitted murdering Neuman.

The discovery was a grim reminder of the atrocities committed against Jews and others during the reign of the military junta in Argentina. Now, more recent outrages indicate that anti-Semitism lives on in Argentina, even though the country is now governed by a democratic regime friendly to Jews.

Protest Draws 30,000

The demonstration against the recent upsurge of anti-Semitism drew some 30,000 Jewish demonstrators to the Plaza Houssay in downtown Buenos Aires last Thursday.

The protestors, some waving Israeli flags, carried signs reading "Violence is the voice of ignorance" and "Let's get rid of anti-Semitism." The demonstration was the largest by Jews here in 25 years.

"The Jewish community is meeting here to put a stop to the anti-Semitic violence which has given all Argentines a quotient of disquiet and anguish," declared David Goldberg, president of the DAIA, the representative body of Argentine Jewry.

He referred to the bombing of a synagogue in the Once neighborhood on Nov. 14, a Saturday, the day after Schwammberger was apprehended. No one was injured in the blast, which damaged the synagogue entrance and shattered windows in the area.

Several days later, gravestones were overturned and defiled in a Jewish cemetery.

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COURT UPHOLDS STATE DEPARTMENT ORDER CLOSING WASHINGTON PLO OFFICE

By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, Dec. 2 (JTA) -- The State Department was acting within its legal rights when it ordered the closing of the Palestine Liberation Organization's information office here, a U.S. District Court judge ruled Wednesday.

Judge Charles Richey said the claim by the Palestine Information Office and its director, Hasan Abdel Rahman, that the order violated the group's constitutional rights, including that of freedom of speech, was "utterly meritless."

Richey's ruling rejects a request by the American Civil Liberties Union for an injunction against the State Department order, which was issued Sept. 15.

The office must now close by midnight Thursday, although the ACLU plans to make another attempt for an injunction, this time before the U.S Court of Appeals.

The move was immediately hailed by the American Jewish Congress, which had filed a brief in support of the government with the district court. This was the first time AJCongress had been on the opposite side of the ACLU in a lawsuit.

Does Not Infringe On Rights

The district court order "confirms that the closing of the PLO office in Washington in no way infringes on the protected rights of Americans or forecloses or even narrows debate on the Mideast policy," said Phil Baum, associate executive director of AJCongress.

"Americans remain free to consider or advocate any issue, including the claims of the Palestinians, without penalty or impediment," Baum said.

He said the State Department decision was an "expression of our country's resolve to go beyond preachment and rhetoric in the fight against terrorism. The action by the State Department effectively declares that all ideas are welcome in this country, but the operating centers of terrorist agencies will not be tolerated."

The court decision also was applauded by Abraham Foxman, national director of the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith.

The State Department order came in the wake of strong pressure from Congress to close both the information office here and the PLO's observer mission at the United Nations in New York. The department said it could close the Washington office, which it considered a foreign mission, but not the U.N. office, because of treaties with the United Nations.

'Concern Over Terrorism'

In announcing the order to close the office, the State Department stressed that "the action is being taken to demonstrate United States concern over terrorism committed and supported by organizations and individuals affiliated with the PLO."

The department stressed that the order does not violate the First Amendment protection of speech, since Rahman and other employees of the Palestine Information Office, all American citizens, are free to continue advocating their cause. This argument was reiterated by Assistant U.S. Attorney Sharon Reich in district court.

But Steven Shapiro, the ACLU lawyer who represented the office, claimed that Rahman was being denied his right to advocate the Palestinian cause.

He also argued that the information office was not an arm of the PLO, but acted as a foreign agent for it, as do many other American groups for foreign countries. However, he conceded that the PLO provided the $350,000 annual expenses for the office, while Rahman's salary was paid for by the Arab League.

The State Department originally ordered the office to close by Oct. 15, but then granted an extension to Dec. 1. Richey extended the stay until Thursday to give him time to study the various briefs after he was brought into the case suddenly last Friday when the original judge, Stanley Sporkin, withdrew.

Shapiro challenged Sporkin's right to hear the case since he may have received information on the PLO when he was general counsel for the Central Intelligence Agency.

The district court decision may increase congressional action to have the PLO's New York office closed too.

A Senate-House conference committee is considering the State Department budget authorization bill, which includes a provision requiring both the Washington and New York offices to be closed.

DIASPORA LEADERS BACK SIMCHA DINITZ TO HEAD WZO-JEWISH AGENCY EXECUTIVE

By Hugh Orgel (Tel Aviv) and Gil Sedan (Jerusalem)

Dec. 2 (JTA) -- Diaspora philanthropists on the Jewish Agency Board of Governors have given their unanimous support to Simcha Dinitz for the office of chairman of the World Zionist Organization and Jewish Agency Executive, the highest of several posts to be filled through elections at the World Zionist Congress, which opens in Jerusalem Sunday.

Their decision was announced in a letter sent Tuesday by Mendel Kaplan, chairman of the Board of Governors, to Foreign Minister Shimon Peres, leader of the Labor Party. Kaplan urged Peres to "take this into account in order to avoid the indignities of the recent past."

He was apparently referring to the bitter reaction in the Labor Party and the Labor Zionist movement over the diaspora philanthropists' unanimous rejection in October of Akiva Lewinsky, the man whom Labor had already chosen as its candidate for the WZO-Jewish Agency chairmanship. Lewinsky dropped out of the race last week amid protests against the "interference" of the overseas Jewish leaders.

Dinitz, 58, a Labor member of the Knesset who served as Israel's ambassador to the United States from 1973-78 and was a close confidant and political adviser to he late Premier Gold Meir, has not yet been formally nominated by his party.

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Two Other Labor Candidates

There are, in fact, two other contenders seeking the nomination when the Labor Party's 1,300 member central committee meets Thursday to select a candidate: Mordechai Gur and Nissim Zvilli.

Kaplan stressed in his letter to Peres that "only Simcha Dinitz has received the unanimous consent of our total leadership." He added that the philanthropists had been "reluctant to participate in the selection process of prospective candidates.

"Your decision to present several candidates has forced our leadership into a comparative analysis, which would have been avoided under previous practice," Kaplan wrote.

Sources close to Peres said Wednesday that he would not comment on Kaplan's letter, but made it public so that the central committee members could take it into account.

Gur was furious. The former Israel Defense Force chief of staff and former health minister claimed he was being undercut.

He accused the Labor Party leadership of caving in to pressure from Premier Yitzhak Shamir, the Likud leader, who oppose Gur's nomination. A spokesman for Shamir rejected Gur's charges that the premier had "incited" American Jewish leaders against him.

Gur Threatening To Quit

Gur has threatened to quit all of his Labor Party posts. But speculation had it Wednesday that Gur would drop his candidacy before the Labor Party vote took place.

Zvilli, the other Labor candidate, who heads the WZO's settlement department, accepted the philanthropists' decision with equanimity. He even commended them for deciding "not to intervene in the legitimate selection process," adding that "the Zionist movement must now use its own discretion and choose its candidate."

Zvilli, however, said he still intends to seek the central committee's nomination.

Kaplan's letter also aroused the ire of the Likud bloc, which has already chosen Science and Technology Minister Gideon Patt, a member of its Liberal Party wing, as its candidate to head the WZO-Jewish Agency.

Likud Is Backing Gideon Patt

Members of Likud's dominant Herut Party wing agreed Wednesday that Patt would remain their candidate for the WZO-Agency post. But they said they would review this decision after Labor selects its candidate.

For Labor and Likud each to present candidates for the chairmanship would be a departure from past practice, when deals were struck in which the party with the most votes at the congress got the chairmanship and the runner-up party got to fill the post of WZO treasurer.

It remains to be seen whether the philanthropists' move to back Dinitz will defuse the angry backlash that has been building up in Labor Zionist circles over the diaspora leaders' rejection of Lewinsky.

Yehiel Leket, chairman of the Labor Zionist movement, demanded Tuesday that the present electoral system be abolished in favor of a more democratic one.

He also called for an end to the ownership-sharing arrangement between the Jewish Agency and the World Zionist Organization, which makes the outcome of WZO elections subject to the "advice and consent" of the Jewish Agency Board of Governors.

According to the advice and consent rule, even if Lewinsky had remained in the race and went on to be elected WZO-Jewish Agency chairman, he could have been vetoed by the overseas philanthropists on the Jewish Agency board, 22 of whom are Americans.

Policy Gone 'Bankrupt'

Leket charged at a news conference in Jerusalem Tuesday that the advice and consent arrangement "has gone bankrupt" and should be abolished. He said the way it was being manipulated yielded results opposite to the original intent.

The process was intended to "strengthen and deepen the partnership" between Israelis and Zionists in the Jewish Agency, on the one hand, and the diaspora leaders, on the other. Instead, Leket said, it is damaging relations and has resulted in "a war of the Jews."

He recalled that the process was established 16 years ago when then Premier "Golda Meir and Max Fisher used to sit tete-a-tete and agree between themselves on the candidate," but now times have changed. Fisher, a Detroit industrialist and leading Jewish philanthropist, was the first chairman of the Agency Board of Governors.

"No movement can agree that representatives of the fund-raisers in the United States (as the philanthropists are commonly referred to in Israel) will dictate the election of candidates and interfere in its (WZO's) election process," Leket said.

He suggested a democratization of the election process whereby Israelis would participate in the election of American representatives on the Jewish Agency board and vice-versa. The change, Leket said, would depoliticize the Jewish Agency and create a "new dialogue" between the Zionists and the philanthropists.

ISRAELI AMBASSADOR CHOSEN TO HEAD UNESCO'S EUROPEAN GROUP OF NATIONS

By Edwin Eytan

PARIS, Dec. 2 (JTA) -- Israel was chosen Wednesday to head the United Nations Economic, Social and Cultural Organization's 24-member European Group of Nations at UNESCO's 24th biennial session, which opened here last month.

Yossef Amihud, Israel's ambassador to UNESCO, was elected by acclamation to serve as chairman of the group for one year, starting Jan. 1. It was the latest and most impressive gain by Israel in the traditionally anti-Israel world body.

UNESCO is divided into five groups of member states. The European Group consists of the 12 members of the European Economic Community, the four Scandinavian countries, plus Switzerland, Turkey, Malta, Cyprus and Israel. The United States and Canada have observer status.

The other groups are Asia-Pacific, Latin America, Eastern Europe, and Africa and the Arab states.

The group chairmen serve as liaisons between the director general, the highest executive of UNESCO, and the 158 member states comprising the organization.

This is the first time Israel was elected to head a UNESCO group. Diplomatic sources said, however, that there was no connection between

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the election of Israel and the recent change at the top of UNESCO.

Federico Mayor Zaragoza of Spain was elected director general of UNESCO in October, succeeding Amadou-Mahtar M'Bow of Senegal, whose 13-year administration was marked by anti-Israel and anti-Western bias.

According to the observers, the selection of Israel was probably due to greater cohesion within the European Group itself, greater western solidarity with Israel and the personality of Ambassador Amihud.

Nevertheless, Israel has been making steady gains since the turnover. On Nov. 20, it was elected to the key 25-member Committee for Headquarters Affairs, which oversees UNESCO's budgetary and administrative activities. At the same time, Amihud was elected to the committee for sports and physical education.

Israel also managed to have toned down two Arab-sponsored resolutions on Jerusalem and the state of education in the administered territories. Both had been adopted by various subcommittees, but were deferred at the request of the Western European delegations.

Israel was also voted last month to head another United Nations agency. The Geneva-based Intergovernmental Committee for Migration elected Pinchas Eliav, Israel's ambassador to the U.N. in Geneva, as its president for one year. It was the first time an Israeli was appointed to preside over an international organization.

ISRAEL STRENGTHENED, BUT CONCERNED, BY U.N. VOTE ON TERRORISM CONFERENCE

By Andrew Silow Carroll

NEW YORK, Dec. 2 (JTA) -- Israel cast the sole vote in the United Nations General Assembly Tuesday night against an amended resolution on international terrorism.

But the resolution as adopted by the General Assembly is seen as a partial diplomatic victory for Israel.

It is also seen as a blow to the resolution's sponsor, Syria, which was forced to compromise on an initial proposal that called on the United Nations to convene an international conference to define the differences between terrorism and legitimate struggles for national liberation.

By agreeing Tuesday to submit a watered-down version of their proposal, the Syrians appeared to be giving in to pressure from the Soviet Union and Third World countries, who agreed with Israel and Western countries that Syria's original proposal would confer legitimacy on international terrorism.

The compromise resolution condemns terrorism and calls on member states to seek means to combat it. Yet it still includes the possibility of calling an international conference.

Voting in favor of the amended proposal were 128 members of the General Assembly. The United States abstained.

'Killed, But Did Not Bury' Conference

Israel's chief representative to the United Nations, Ambassador Benjamin Netanyahu, explained Israel's opposition to the amended proposal by saying that the General Assembly "killed, but did not bury" the idea of an international conference on terrorism.

According to a statement released by the Israel Mission's press office, Netanyahu said that Syria was trying to use the international conference to "justify terrorism by putting it under the banner of national liberation."

"The Syrians were caught and exposed in London and West Berlin for participating in terrorism. Now they want to say that those acts were not crimes, but acts of national liberation under the sponsorship of the U.N.," said Eyal Arad, the Israel Mission spokesman.

Israel contends that "the cause has no relevance to criminal means," said Arad.

The pressure put on Syria to amend its proposal is seen by the Israel Mission and others as a further strengthening of Israel's position within a body traditionally hostile to its interests. Just last month, the United Nations agreed to open its files on more than 40,000 suspected Nazi war criminals, capping a string of diplomatic victories for Israel.

Those include a failure this year by Iraq to introduce its annual resolution condemning Israel for the 1981 raid on its nuclear installation in Baghdad and the exclusion of Israel from a resolution condemning countries for their cooperation with the South African government.

WILLIAM NAKASH DEPORTED TO FRANCE, ENDING TWO-YEAR EXTRADITION BATTLE

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Dec. 2 (JTA) -- William Nakash, an Algerian-born Jew, was deported to France Wednesday after losing a two-year battle against extradition that raised the passions of nationalist elements in Israel and pitted the rabbinical authorities against the secular courts.

Nakash, under heavy guard, was taken handcuffed from prison to the ramp of an El Al plane at Ben Gurion Airport, where he was handed over to two French police officers sent to escort him to France.

He will stand trial there for the Feb. 22, 1983 murder of Abdelali Hakkar, an Algerian Arab in Besancon, a city in southern France near the Swiss border.

Nakash, 26, who fled to Israel nearly four years ago to escape an arrest warrant, was tried in absentia for the crime, convicted and sentenced to life imprisonment. The French authorities agreed recently to give him a second trial.

Although Israel's Supreme Court ruled last summer that Nakash should be extradited and the Justice Ministry signed the order, its implementation was delayed when the rabbinical court in Jerusalem banned his departure from the country.

The rabbis insisted Nakash could not leave unless he granted a divorce to his pregnant wife, Rina, who otherwise would become an aguna--abandoned woman -- prohibited from remarrying under religious law.

The rabbinical court withdrew its ban last month after Nakash signed a "conditional bill of divorce." His wife was not at the airport to see him off. She told reporters she does not intend to go to France for the trial.

Became A 'Baal Teshuvah'

Nakash came to Israel in 1983 under an assumed name and was granted automatic citizenship under the Law of Return. His identity was revealed when he was arrested here for armed robbery. In the interim he had become a baal teshuvah -- a Jew who returns to the religious fold -- and embraced Orthodoxy.

His cause was taken up by Orthodox leaders, notably Rabbi Yitzhak Peretz, head of the Shas

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party. Right-wing nationalists opposed his extradition on the principle that no Jew should be extradited to a gentile country.

They maintained that Nakash had killed the Arab in self-defense and that his life would be endangered if he were forced to serve his sentence in a French prison. Appeals were made to France to allow him to do his time in an Israeli jail.

Liberal and left-wing circles noted that a French court found Nakash to have committed a criminal act that had no bearing on the fact that he is a Jew and his victim was an Arab. They argued that Israel should not be turned into a "haven for criminals just because they happen to be Jews."

Israeli jurists and reporters who studied the case in France agreed with the French authorities that the murder was the outcome of a quarrel between underworld elements in Besancon and had no political overtones. Nakash's accomplice in fact was another Algerian Arab, presently serving his sentence in France.

EAST BERLIN'S JEWS KEEPING EYE ON TRIAL OF NEO-NAZI THUGS
By David Kantor

BONN, Dec. 2 (JTA) -- Western observers and East Berlin's small Jewish community are closely watching the trial in an East Berlin district court of neo-Nazi thugs accused of an anti-Semitic attack on a Protestant church that maintains friendly relations with Jews.

The trial amounts to the first acknowledgement by the (East) German Democratic Republic that neo-Nazis are indeed active in what the authorities like to call the "first anti-fascist state on German soil."

The accused are members of a "skinhead" group charged with storming the Zion Church in East Berlin last October, inflicting serious injuries on some members of the congregation. They broke into the church shouting "Jewish pigs" and "send the Jews to the chambers."

"Skinheads," youthful roughnecks who shave their heads, wear Nazi-like uniforms and wield chains and other weapons, are a phenomenon that has surfaced recently in the West, including the United States. Most of these groups are vocally and violently anti-Semitic.

The state prosecutor has demanded prison sentences of 14 months to two years for the neo-Nazis. A verdict is expected some time next week.

Charges Never Heard Before

According to observers, the charges against the group have never before been heard in the East German courts. East Germany has repeatedly claimed that neo-Nazism and anti-Semitism are "capitalist" manifestations that do not exist in the communist Democratic Republic.

More recently, the authorities charged that East German youths were incited and "poisoned" by West German neo-Nazi activists. Western reporters say they have seen on many occasions East Berlin municipal workers rushing to erase swastikas on walls and buildings.

The Zion Church has been promoting Christian-Jewish dialogue and its leaders have warned of recent outbreaks of anti-Semitism in East Germany. The East Berlin Jewish community was seriously disturbed last week when the secret police, Stassi, arrested several church activists in East Berlin and elsewhere and confiscated books.

For a time it was feared the crackdown would extend to the Jewish community. But members of the community told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency Sunday there seems to be no immediate threat. The police action was seen as a warning to opposition groups in East Germany that enjoy some degree of support by the church.

SYRIAN VETERANS ASK TO BE ON WATCH LIST
By Reinhard Engel

VIENNA, Dec. 2 (JTA) -- Syrians who served in the German army during World War II have demanded that the United States place them on its "watch list" so that they can demonstrate their solidarity with Austrian President Kurt Waldheim.

The Syrian branch of the Oesterreichischer Kameradschaftsbund, Austria's largest veterans organization, sent a petition to the organization's headquarters in Vienna. It said that since they had been soldiers in the Wehrmacht, like Waldheim, they want to share his lot.

Waldheim was placed on the U.S. Justice Department's "watch list" of aliens denied entry into the United States because of evidence of his complicity in the deportation of Greek Jews and knowledge of other atrocities while serving as a German army intelligence officer in the Balkans during the war.

But the veterans organization, which has undergone a change of leadership and of politics recently, said it will not hand over the Syrian petition to the new American ambassador, Henry Anatole Grunwald, when he arrives here later this month. According to the veterans group, this is for "reconciliation reasons." Vienna-born Grunwald, who is Jewish, recently retired as editor in chief of the Time magazine.

FORWARD EDITOR DEAD AT 76

NEW YORK, Dec. 2 (JTA) -- Simon Weber, a veteran Yiddish journalist who was editor of the Forward for 18 years until his retirement last May, died at Beth Israel Hospital of a lung ailment Tuesday. He was 76 and had been associated with the Forward for nearly 50 years.

At the time of his death he held the title of editor emeritus of the paper, which changed from daily to weekly publication in 1985.

Weber, born in Stasher, Poland, in 1911, wrote for Yiddish newspapers and periodicals in Warsaw before coming to the United States in 1928. He left almost immediately for South America to work for Yiddish newspapers in Buenos Aires.

Weber returned to the United States in 1936 and worked as city editor of the Freiheit, then the Yiddish language organ of the Communist Party. He quit after a year because he objected to its politics and went to work for the Yiddishe Welt, a daily published in Philadelphia.

He joined the Forward staff in 1939, working his way from reporter to assistant city editor, city editor and finally chief editor of what was then the largest Yiddish daily newspaper in the world.

Weber was a close friend of novelist Isaac Bashevis Singer. When Singer won the Nobel Prize for literature in 1986, Weber accompanied him to Stockholm.

Funeral services will be held Friday at the Plaza Memorial Chapel, 91st Street and Amsterdam Ave. in Manhattan.

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6 IDF SOLDIERS KILLED, 7 WOUNDED IN SURPRISE ATTACK BY TERRORIST WHO ENTERED GALILEE IN HANG-GLIDER

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Nov. 26 (JTA) -- A lone terrorist, who sailed almost silently over the Lebanon border in a motorized hang-glider, killed six Israeli soldiers and wounded seven near Kiryat Shemona in the upper Galilee Wednesday night before he was shot to death by one of the soldiers he had wounded.

Some time later, an Israel Defense Force patrol killed a second terrorist whose glider had come down in southern Lebanon just short of the Israel border. There were no Israeli casualties in that encounter.

The attack, the most serious terrorist infiltration of Israel in many years, pierced Israel's rigorous defenses around the northern border.

The IDF was put on emergency alert, with the entire area sealed off. Residents of Kiryat Shemona, three miles west of the attack, were ordered to remain in their homes for the rest of the Wednesday night and well into the morning. But schools in the town opened shortly before noon Thursday.

The precautions were taken because the red-and-white-painted glider, a type used for sport, was capable of carrying two persons, and it was believed a second, unaccounted terrorist might also have landed. But searches into the morning found no one.

Landed East Of Kiryat Shemona

The gliders are believed to have been launched from high ground in southern Lebanon, north of Israel's security zone there. According to military sources, the terrorist landed his glider east of Kiryat Shemona at about 10 p.m. local time Wednesday and opened fire at a passing IDF car, killing the officer who was driving.

He then entered a nearby IDF camp, spraying one tent with machine-gun bullets and throwing hand grenades. Five soldiers in the tent were killed and seven were wounded. One of the men, shot in the leg, killed the terrorist.

The slain Israeli soldiers were identified as Lt. Jacki Beyer of Holon; Lt. Leron Pnimi of Avihayil; Sgt. Daniel Miller of Raanana; Cpl. Nir Hazon of Petach Tikva; Cpl. Guy Netanel of Jerusalem; and Cpl. Binyamin Bassekman of Holon. The seven wounded soldiers were rushed by helicopter to hospitals in Safed and Haifa.

Premier Yitzhak Shamir summoned the Inner Cabinet into urgent session Thursday morning to be briefed on the attack and consider possible retaliatory measures. The Inner Cabinet, consisting of five Labor Party and five Likud ministers, is Israel's top policy-making body.

Shamir visited the area of the attack later in the day, following visits by Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin, Chief of Staff Gen. Dan Shomron and other senior IDF officers.

Pro-Syrian Terror Group Takes Credit

In Beirut, the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command, a pro-Syrian terrorist group headed by Ahmed Jabreel, claimed credit for the operation.

It said the attack was "dedicated to Ariel Sharon, who wiped out many Arab villages in retaliatory operations carried out on Oct. 15, 1983 in northern Galilee." Sharon, who is minister of commerce and industry, was defense minister during the Lebanon war.

Shomron told IDF radio Thursday that the attack by a "single intruder" was clearly a suicide mission, because the infiltrator had no means of escape.

Shomron said that Palestinian terrorists are constantly seeking new ways to infiltrate Israel. They have tried small boats, small aircraft or small groups by land under cover of night. Most of these attempts failed and any damage was slight, Shomron said. But he warned it is impossible to seal off the country completely.

The last previous attempts to infiltrate Israel by air ocurred in 1981 and 1982. In the first, a terrorist surrendered after landing his glider in the Galilee. A year later, two terrorists were killed when their hot air balloon was shot down.

THOSE WHO REMEMBER SCHWAMMBERGER TELL STORIES OF HIS BRUTALITY

By Andrew Silow Carroll

NEW YORK, Nov. 26 (JTA) -- Accounts by eyewitnesses to the brutality of a suspected Nazi war criminal arrested last week in Argentina are being forwarded to Argentine authorities, according to officials of the Simon Wiesenthal Center in Los Angeles and the World Jewish Congress in New York.

Both groups are continuing the search for survivors of labor camps in Przemysl and Rozwadow, and the concentration camp in Mielce, all in Poland, where Josef Schwammberger, 75, is said to have been responsible, as commandant, for the executions and torture of hundreds of Jews.

The groups hope to speed extradition proceedings against Schwammberger. They expect a full trial for Schwammberger to be held in West Germany, where he will be charged with mass murder and torture.

According to Austrian police files obtained by The New York Times, Schwammberger admitted shooting 35 Jews and plundering from Jewish slave laborers sacks of gold and diamond jewelry found in his possession when he was arrested by Austrian police in 1945.

Testimony by witnesses in those same files depict Schwammberger as a bestial executioner who yanked gold teeth from the mouths of prisoners, set his dog upon others and shot Jews at point-black range, the Times said.

Meeting with Argentinean officials last Friday, Wiesenthal Center dean Rabbi Marvin Hier presented a dossier on Schwammberger and a list of living witnesses.

Case Involving 'Living People'

"I wanted to impress upon them that this is not a matter of historical research, but a case involving living people," Hier told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency this week.

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The witnesses include Sam Nussbaum, a Kansas City plumbing contractor who served as Schwammberger's plumber in the Przemysl ghetto, and Arnold Susskind and Joseph Wellner, both of Forest Hills, N.Y., who lived in Przemysl when Schwammberger was the ghetto's commandant in 1942-43.

The World Jewish Congress has also forwarded to Argentine authorities the testimony of Ignaz Horowitz of Brooklyn, also a survivor of Przemysl.

Horowitz told JTA that he was 21 years old when Schwammberger ordered the executions of his entire family in the nearby village of Stalowa-Wola. "I was lucky to escape," said Horowitz, who was asked to testify against Schwammberger during an earlier extradition attempt by West Germany, and who contacted the WJC last week when he heard of Schwammberger's arrest.

Susskind told Hier that he was one of seven men caught by Schwammberger as they baked matzoh for Passover. Schwammberger personally executed one of the men, and his guards emptied their rifles into a second man as the others, including Susskind, fled the bakery.

Said To Have Executed 3-Year-Old

Susskind said that Schwammberger also ordered the execution of Susskind's 3-year-old son, according to Hier.

"It makes me sick remembering all these things," Susskind said in a telephone interview. "But I have no problem testifying."

As Schwammberger's plumber, Nussbaum was probably the closest eyewitness to Schwammberger, according to Hier. Nussbaum not only witnessed murders, said Hier, but also Schwammberger's wife pleading with the commandant to put an end to the atrocities.

Wellner is one of two living witnesses to the 1942 execution of a Rabbi Frenkel of Wieliczka. "Wellner wasn't standing more than 20 feet away from the gallows" when Frenkel was hanged in Rodzwadow for refusing to work on Yom Kippur, said Hier.

About his meeting with Argentine officials last week, Hier said that he thanked them for their role in arresting Schwammberger, while voicing skepticism about the state of Schwammberger's health. Schwammberger was moved to a prison infirmary in La Plata last week after he said he was having chest pains.

According to Hier, Schwammberger appeared fit at his first hearing.

"I told them to be careful that it was not a defense ploy" to prevent him from being sent out of the country, said Hier.

PERES HOPES THATCHER WILL PUSH MIDEAST CONFERENCE WITH REAGAN

By Maurice Samuelson

LONDON, Nov. 26 (JTA) -- Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres and Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher reaffirmed their support Monday for an international conference for Middle East peace.

The two leaders met for 80 minutes Monday, their third meeting this year, and said an international conference was the best prospect to advance the Mideast peace process.

Their statement confirmed that Peres has Thatcher's support in his differences with Premier Yitzhak Shamir, who opposes the conference scenario. Peres also hopes that the British leader will be able to convince President Reagan to support the idea, and possibly even the Soviets.

An interview in The Times of London Tuesday quoted Peres as saying, "I think that Mrs. Thatcher is well placed, because there is respect for her in Jordan and her views are very much respected in Washington and in Moscow."

Peres met with Foreign Secretary Sir Geoffrey Howe Tuesday. In the morning, addressing a packed meeting of Jewish fund-raisers, he spelled out what he thought Israel should achieve over the next 40 years:

"Instead of winning wars, we must win the peace. Instead of standing against the Arabs, we must convince them to face their problems in cooperation with us.

"Israel must stress the spiritual and intellectual aspects of its life and return to its historical tradition: never to submit to others, but also not to master others," Peres said.

SOVIETS BACK INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE, SHEVARDNADZE SAYS

By Tamar Levy

GENEVA, Nov. 26 (JTA) -- Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze told reporters here Tuesday that the Soviet Union believes an international conference "is the only approach" to Arab-Israeli peace.

"This approach is shared by all the U.N. Security Council members and the Arabs," he contended at a news conference following talks here with U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz.

"Without an international conference, bilateral negotiations are impossible. I know that this concept is shared by (Israeli) Foreign Minister Shimon Peres. Whether he is able to reach an agreement with his prime minister, I do not know."

Peres advocates such a conference as a precursor to direct negotiations. Premier Yitzhak Shamir contends the prospect of a conference is preventing Arab states from negotiating now.

TERRORIST ATTACK SPURS TALKS TO END RADIO-TV STRIKE IN ISRAEL

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Nov. 26 (JTA) -- The eight-week-old strike by broadcast journalists may be over by Friday morning, both sides spurred toward agreement by the terrorist attack that killed six Israeli soldiers in Upper Galilee Wednesday night.

The attack went largely unreported because most radio and television channels were blacked out by the strike. This prompted the Israel Broadcast Authority management to postpone a reorganization and modernization program, thereby removing the last obstacle to an agreement.

The striking journalists said they were ready to sign an arbitration agreement and return to work immediately if the proposed reorganization were delayed. They feared it would lead to job losses.

The IBA management had planned to introduce modern electronic equipment it had acquired some time ago but never used because of protests by the employees. This includes electronic video cameras to replace old-fashioned film cameras. The video cameras would improve and expand television coverage in the main population centers of the country.

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But they would delay coverage in outlying areas where video cameras are not yet available. The IBA management realized that had the new program been in effect, it could not have properly covered the attack in Upper Galilee, the worst terrorist infiltration of Israel in recent years.

Negotiations between the IBA and the strikers had been aiming at voluntary arbitration of their dispute, during which radio and television service would be restored. It hit a snag Wednesday when the IBA insisted its re-organization program be put on the agenda for arbitration.

The striking journalists balked, claiming this was a new element. They maintained that the only issue for arbitration was their demand for wages equal to those of print journalists. Broadcast journalists, as public employees, have a lower wage scale than their colleagues on newspapers, most of which are privately owned.

The Finance Ministry had refused to consider increases for them, lest other public sector employees demand the same. But the finance and education ministries assented to voluntary arbitration because it treats each case on its merits without establishing precedents.

The striking journalists and representatives of the Journalists Association are scheduled to meet Friday morning to discuss their strategy. It is widely believed that in light of the latest developments they will vote to return to work immediately.

REFUSENIKS, CAMERA CREWS BEATEN UP DURING DEMONSTRATION IN MOSCOW

By Mark Joffe

NEW YORK, Nov. 26 (JTA) -- A group of Jewish activists demonstrating Tuesday near the Moscow emigration office, as well as several Western journalists covering their protest, were beaten up by a group of bystanders with the apparent complicity of Soviet security agents.

Four of the Jewish activists were arrested by police and given prison sentences ranging from seven to 15 days, while others were fined up to $65, according to reports reaching Soviet Jewry organizations here.

The protest lasted no more than three or four minutes and ended after some 50 individuals, reportedly bussed to the scene by Soviet police, rushed the Jewish demonstrators, ripping posters from their hands. The mob also assaulted camera crews from the ABC, CBS, CNN and NBC television networks, cutting camera wires and throwing snow on camera lenses.

Dragged, Kicked And Beaten

The demonstrators were dragged from the scene to waiting police buses and then kicked and beaten, according to news reports from Moscow.

A Leningrad refusenik, variously identified with the family name of Goldin or Goldman, was sentenced to 15 days in prison. Refusenik Mark Kogan of Minsk and two Leningrad refuseniks, Igor Chernoschwartz and Valery Fyoderov, received sentences of seven to 10 days.

Moscow refuseniks Alexander Gashunin, Mikhail Losiev, Vladimir Meshkov and Leonid Travinsky were fined 25 to 50 rubles ($33 to $65) and released, according to reports reaching the Student Struggle for Soviet Jewry, the Union of Councils for Soviet Jews and the Coalition to Free Soviet Jews.

According to one report, the demonstration was organized to protest the upcoming forced Soviet army conscription of an 18-year-old Jewish man, Alexander Poberezsky of Moscow. After demobilization, a former soldier and his family are often denied emigration for many years on the grounds that he acquired "state secrets."

Other sources said the demonstration was organized on behalf of Tatyana Kolchinsky, who has been seeking to emigrate for about nine years.

Rabbi Avraham Weiss, SSSJ national chairman, and Pamela Cohen, UCSJ president, issued a statement condemning the disruption of the protest. They described the police action as "ripping the mask of civility off the face of 'glasnost' and exposing the unchanged nature of Kremlin anti-Semitism."

They said it is "truly tragic" that two weeks before the summit meeting between President Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev, where human rights will be a major topic of discussion, the Soviets "still cannot permit those denied their right of emigration some expression of free speech."

Meanwhile, it was learned that a number of Moscow Jewish women denied permission to emigrate will demonstrate in front of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet during the Reagan-Gorbachev meetings.

They and their husbands, who will stay home to avoid further violence, are also expected to go on hunger strikes during the summit.

'STATE SECRECY' GROUNDS FOR DENYING EMIGRATION COMES UNDER SCRUTINY

By Yossi Lempkowitz (Brussels) and Susan Birnbaum (New York)

Nov. 26 (JTA) -- Seventy distinguished scientists from 12 countries called on the Soviet Union this week to stop denying exit visas to Jewish scientists on grounds that they possess state secrets.

The appeal was made in Brussels at a one-day symposium of the International Federation of Scientists for Soviet Refuseniks, a London-based organization. The guest of honor was Viktor Brailovsky, a computer scientist from Moscow who was allowed to leave for Israel in September after waiting 15 years for an exit permit.

A resolution adopted at the gathering urged the Soviet Union "to promulgate a law defining national security and the effect of knowledge of 'state secrets' on individual rights." It also called on the Soviets to establish a limit to how long they could prevent people from leaving the country for possession of classified material and to inform all scientists of this before they begin their work.

The period a scientist is denied emigration permission should not exceed one year from the time the individual last had access to national security information, the resolution said. A copy will be sent to the Soviet authorities.

At a similar gathering in Eugene, Ore., this week, 175 scientists participating in the annual meeting of the American Physical Society Division of Fluid Dynamics petitioned Soviet scientific and government officials to allow the emigration of two colleagues, Benjamin Charny and Leonid Dikii, who have been refused permission to emigrate since 1979.

About 239 Jewish scientists in the USSR reportedly have been forced to wait years for exit visas, during which time they are denied access to scientific institutions and are not allowed to

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attend meetings in their particular fields. The families of these scientists are often impeded from leaving the country.

On Nov. 23, more than 100 refuseniks convened in Moscow for a seminar on the state secrecy problem, the Coalition to Free Soviet Jews reported in New York. With members of the international press in attendance, overflow crowds in a two-room apartment met in workshops to discuss Soviet laws and procedures governing emigration, comparing these regulations with those of other countries. Many participants denied having ever had access to classified material.

One of the seminar's organizers, Pavel Abramovich, a 16-year refusenik, was fired from his job as an electronics engineer in 1971. He is presently compiling the second of two journals containing articles on the issue of "state secrecy." He hopes to have this second volume of over 60 articles published in the West.

NEW SNAG DEVELOPS IN BEGUNS' EXIT
By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Nov. 26 (JTA) -- The long-awaited arrival in Israel of refusenik leader Iosif Begun and his family has hit a new snag, according to Soviet emigre sources here.

They said the entire Begun family -- Iosif and his wife Inna, his son Boris, 23, and his wife Yanna, 24, and their child -- went to collect their exit visas Tuesday. Iosif and Inna received theirs, but Boris and Yanna demanded the right to retain their Soviet citizenship after emigration, and this was refused.

Boris and Yanna say they will not leave the Soviet Union without their Soviet passports and the right to return in order to visit their family, including Boris' mother (Iosif Begun's former wife) and Yanna's parents, who had refused to sign the necessary parental consent for their daughter's emigration.

Yanna was told last week that she would could leave without her father's consent. The Begun family's exit visas expire Dec. 8.

DISPUTE OVER EXPERT'S TESTIMONY FORCES RECESS OF DEMJANJUK TRIAL
By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Nov. 26 (JTA) -- A dispute over the testimony of a defense witness in the trial of suspected war criminal John Demjanjuk forced a three-week suspension of the trial Wednesday. It will resume on Dec. 14.

William Flynn, a forensics expert hired by Demjanjuk's supporters in the United States, was excused from giving further testimony after he told the court his sponsors threatened to sue him for breach of contract if he continued on the stand.

The threat was made apparently because the court on Tuesday rejected an exhibit prepared by Flynn to show that a key document which could prove Demjanjuk was the brutal guard at the Treblinka death camp, known as "Ivan the Terrible," could have been forged.

Flynn displayed in court a photo montage and a deliberately forged document which he presented as proof that an identification card allegedly issued to Demjanjuk by the SS at Trawniki, a training camp for concentration camp guards, could also have been forged. The prosecution obtained the card from the Soviet Union and maintains it is authentic.

Demjanjuk, a Ukrainian-born former automobile worker from Cleveland, Ohio, claims he was a German prisoner of war at the time he is alleged to have been in Treblinka. The defense alleges that the ID card was forged by the Soviets in order to incriminate the suspect because of his Ukrainian nationalist activities.

When the court rejected Flynn's efforts to prove this, the defense asked the three-judge panel to disregard all of his testimony.

But the court accepted the prosecution's request that his testimony be kept on the record and that Flynn by subjected to cross-examination. When prosecuting attorney Michael Shaked began his questioning, Flynn asked to be excused.

The court said it suspected Edward Nishik, head of the fund-raising efforts for Demjanjuk's defense, of trying to interfere with the case by influencing the testimony of a witness. A police investigation was ordered.

Demjanjuk himself was not in court. He remained in his cell at Ramle prison suffering from back injuries he claimed he sustained during the rough ride to court in a police van two weeks ago.

Another development in the trial was reported from Amsterdam Thursday. Willem Wagenaar, a professor in experimental psychology at the University of Leyden, who had testified as an expert witness for the defense, called a news conference on his return from Jerusalem at which he was highly critical of the way Demjanjuk's trial was being conducted.

Wagenaar, who specializes in the function of memory, accused the Israeli authorities of having conducted their investigation of Demjanjuk "very carelessly." He contended that the method used to identify photographs of the accused "was dishonest."

According to Wagenaar, prosecution witnesses were given a description of Demjanjuk as a man with "a round face and a bull neck" before they were shown a series of photographs from which they were supposed to pick out the suspect. Only one of the photos fitted the description.

Wagenaar also charged that potential witnesses who claimed that the Treblinka guard known as "Ivan the Terrible" is long dead were not heard by the court.

According to the professor, it will be impossible for the Israelis to prove Demjanjuk is the war criminal they claim he is.

EGYPT REPORTED TO TAKE STEPS TO DISTANCE ITSELF FROM ISRAEL
By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Nov. 26 (JTA) -- The Egyptian Foreign Ministry has secretly instructed its embassies around the world not to invite Israeli diplomats in various countries to festive Egyptian events, according to Al-Mustaqbal, a Paris-based, Arab-language weekly.

The development, which comes in the aftermath of Egypt's resumption of diplomatic relations with nine Arab countries, was reported Wednesday by Sheffi Gabai, Arab affairs correspondent of the Israeli daily Maariv, who quoted the Paris weekly's report.

The weekly also quoted Jordanian Foreign Minister Taher Al-Masri as saying that the Arab summit decision permitting member countries to renew relations with Egypt is designed to cut Egypt off from the Camp David accords with Israel.

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BEHIND THE HEADLINES:
LAST WEEK'S TERRORIST ATTACK MAY BE SIGN OF CHANGE IN PALESTINIAN TACTICS
By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Nov. 29 (JTA) -- Israel's self-confidence has been badly shaken by the terrorist attack last Wednesday night in which a lone assailant managed to kill six soldiers and wound seven before he himself was gunned down.

One lesson immediately learned from the incident is that Palestinian tactics have changed. The popular image of the terrorist as a coward who will only attack unarmed civilians -- women and children -- has suffered a jolt.

Last week's suicide mission proved that some terrorists at least are ready to go up against the "invincible" Israel Defense Force itself, and not simply by stabbing a soldier in a crowded marketplace. The terrorist who sailed over the electrified fences of the Lebanon-Israel border in a hang-glider powered by a small bicycle motor, showed daring worthy of IDF commandos.

The terrorists demonstrated they are capable of careful planning and have good intelligence. The single raider landed within easy walking distance of an IDF military encampment and he chose to attack it rather than the town of Kiryat Shemona a few miles to the west.

He caught the IDF off-guard and inflicted serious casualties in a short time. They might have been much worse had a second terrorist not landed his glider in the southern Lebanon security zone, just short of the Israel border. He was found and killed by an IDF search patrol alerted after the initial attack.

Soul-Searching In The IDF

The IDF high command is doing some serious soul-searching. Lack of preparedness and, much worse, complacency, was evident at the military camp in upper Galilee. Some observers have likened the local situation to that which prevailed before the 1973 Yom Kippur War.

Gen. Dan Shomron, the IDF chief of staff, and Gen. Yossi Peled, commander of the northern sector, have admitted publicly that something was terribly wrong with the way the security system functioned, or failed to function.

A division commander, whose unit was the one attacked, has already prepared his letter of resignation, it was reported Sunday. Other heads are expected to roll in the senior ranks of the IDF.

But while the military is apparently prepared to acknowledge its mistakes and evaluate the painful lessons, the political echelons so far have only pointed their fingers at Syria as the culprit ultimately responsible for the attack.

Shomron told military correspondents Friday there was no doubt that the attack was carried out by the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command, a small terrorist group headed by Ahmed Jabril. It is known to operate under Syrian protection and is considered unlikely to have mounted the commando attack without Syrian approval and probably complicity.

But the operation's success cannot be attributed to Syria. The Palestinians have demonstrated a new sophisticated capability. In short, the nature of the enemy appears to be changing and this has political as well as military implications, though no senior political figure has commented on this in public.

Awad Case Indicates New Tactics

Palestinian tactics also appear to be changing in the administered territories, and this appears to have caught Israel off-guard as well. The most recent indication of this is the case of Dr. Mubarak Awad, a Jerusalem-born Palestinian who is the leading advocate of non-violent resistance to Israel's occupation of the administered territories.

Israel claims that Awad, an American citizen, encourages sabotage, and was about to expel him from the country on Nov. 20. But authorities postponed the deportation order after the U.S. Embassy in Tel Aviv intervened and a State Department spokesman in Washington extolled Awad as a force for peace.

The Israelis said they did not want to create friction with Washington while Premier Yitzhak Shamir was visiting the United States. But it is apparent that the authorities here are at a loss to cope with Awad's line of peaceful resistance, which amounts in fact to advocacy of civil disobedience.

The political authorities may also be overlooking the implications of last week's terrorist attack on the attitude of the mass of Palestinians in Israel and in the territories. Arabic newspapers in East Jerusalem declined to comment editorially on the incident, apparently to avoid censorship.

But the story of the attack and the IDF casualties dominated the front pages. There were bold headlines in blue print and maps with arrows defining the area where the attack was carried out.

The Jerusalem Post quoted a Palestinian observer Sunday as saying the glider attack was a source of satisfaction to the Palestinian population, without the uneasiness that accompanied past terrorist attacks on civilians.

BONN OFFICIALS PRESENT ARGENTINA WITH DOCUMENTS ON SCHWAMMBERGER
By David Kantor

BONN, Nov. 29 (JTA) -- A representative of the federal prosecutor's office arrived in Buenos Aires Friday with a mass of documentary evidence it is hoped will speed the extradition of Josef Schwammberger to stand trial in West Germany on charges of murdering thousands of Jews in Poland during World War II.

A Justice Ministry spokesman said the documents should help make a positive identification of Schwammberger and link him to killings and atrocities in the ghettos and slave labor camps of Przemsyl, Rozwadow, Stalowa-Woda and the concentration camp in Mielce.

But the authorities here acknowledge there may be difficulties. The main obstacle is that Schwammberger holds Argentine citizenship. Bonn hopes the Argentine authorities can find a way to strip him of his rights as a citizen by proving that he lied about his Nazi activities when he

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applied for a passport around 1950. This is the method used by the United States Department of Justice against suspected war criminals who obtained American citizenship by falsifying their past.

According to Justice Ministry officials here, the Argentine government has promised to do everything possible to facilitate the extradition of Schwammberger.

The former Nazi was arrested in Cordoba province in northern Argentina last month on the basis of information provided by several sources, including Simon Wiesenthal's war crimes documentation center in Vienna and the Los Angeles-based Simon Wiesenthal Center.

Argentine Court To Hear Case

The case will soon go before a court in Buenos Aires, where the additional dossiers provided by West Germany will be presented in evidence. But this might be delayed by Schwammberger's alleged poor health. He was admitted to a prison infirmary last week after complaining of chest pains.

Schwammberger, now 75, was arrested in Austria in 1945. But he escaped to South America in 1948, possibly with the aid of the underground Nazi rescue network known as "Odessa." He entered Argentina two years later under his own name and was employed by a German company, Siemens.

An arrest warrant for Schwammberger was issued in 1973 by a court in Stuttgart, West Germany. He is expected to stand trial there after extradition.

RADIO AND TV JOURNALISTS, HOSPITAL DOCTORS END STRIKES
By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Nov. 29 (JTA) -- Two seven-week strikes that inconvenienced the public ended Friday.

Journalists of the Israel Broadcasting Authority (IBA) agreed to return to work, capping 51 days of radio silence and television-screen blackout. And the physicians at Kupat Holim sick-fund hospitals are back in full force, allowing the hospitals to return to normal after seven weeks of reduced Sabbath schedules.

The journalists' decision was apparently spurred by the public's desire for information about the terrorist attack last Wednesday in the Galilee. The journalists had sought salary increases.

The agreement reached Thursday night between the strikers and the IBA directorate calls for the strikers to join arbitration proceedings, with IBA director general Uri Porat postponing his reorganization plans and submitting those proposals to the journalists for their full consideration and comments before any new steps are initiated.

Television viewers are looking forward to the next episode of the "Dynasty" series next week. They were left, more than seven weeks ago, with Alexis and Crystal locked in a blazing house, without knowing who set the blaze and who (inevitably) will save them from the "longest fire in Israel's history."

But at least one man said he would not be listening Friday night, when the broadcasts were to resume. Knesset member Avraham Verdiger of the Orthodox Morasha party protested to the Cabinet that resumption of broadcasts comes "precisely as the holy Sabbath begins. Why not wait until the Sabbath ends?" he asked.

The doctors have agreed to end their job action, and the Histadrut management has agreed to institute second shifts in operating rooms and clinics in return for extra salaries for doctors working the extra hours.

The doctors say about 30,000 patients await elective surgery, while the management claims 10,000. But whatever the number, most will now be treated in a matter of weeks.

POLAND AND CZECHOSLOVAKIA GRANT EL AL AIR RIGHTS TO AIRSPACE
By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Nov. 29 (JTA) -- Poland and Czechoslovakia have given permission to Israeli commercial planes to fly through their airspace, lifting a ban imposed when those countries broke diplomatic relations with Israel during the 1967 Six-Day War.

One result will be to shorten El Al's flights between Tel Aviv and Copenhagen by 20 minutes, the airline announced Sunday. El Al will soon introduce new Boeing 757 aircraft on this and other routes. The new planes, which can seat 191 passengers, will replace the Boeing 707s now in use.

Israel and Poland took the first steps toward re-establishing diplomatic ties last summer, when Israel opened an interest section in Warsaw and Poland opened one in Tel Aviv. Interest sections are the lowest level of diplomatic representation.

There has been no such move to date between Israel and Czechoslovakia.

PAPER SAYS JORDAN CAPTURED TWO ISRAELI SOLDIERS ON SPY MISSION
By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Nov. 29 (JTA) -- Two Israel Defense Force officers were arrested in Jordan early this month and are under interrogation for espionage, according to the Abu Dhabi newspaper Al-Itihad, quoted by Maariv Sunday.

The IDF has disclaimed any knowledge of such incident.

The report said the officers, when captured, said they were on their way to explore the ruins of the ancient Nabatean city of Petra in Jordan. They admitted they were in the country illegally, but insisted their purpose was innocent.

The timing of their trip, on Nov. 6, two days before the Arab summit conference opened in Amman, Jordan, has convinced the Jordanian counterintelligence agencies that the Israelis were on their way to plant intelligence-gathering devices, Al-Itihad reported.

Petra was built some 2,000 years ago, carved from the red rock walls of the eastern side of the Jordan rift, between the Dead Sea and the Gulf of Eilat. It has long been an attraction for Israeli hikers and archaeologists, a number of whom have been killed in attempts to visit the ruins.

In the early 1950s, the Israeli authorities banned a popular song, "The Red Rock," which was thought to encourage adventurous Israeli youngsters to make the dangerous trip.

If two IDF officers did indeed hike to Petra, they may have been inspired by a recent Jordanian television documentary about the discovery of Petra by a British explorer in the 19th century.

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ALL 100 SENATORS URGE REAGAN TO PUSH GORBACHEV ON HUMAN RIGHTS

By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, Nov. 29 (JTA) -- All 100 members of the Senate have signed a letter to President Reagan urging him to continue to "keep the subject of human rights high on the agenda" at his summit meeting with Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev.

The letter is "a statement from the full U.S. Senate that this issue cannot be swept under the rug," according to Sen. Lawton Chiles (D-Fla.), who initiated the letter along with Sens. Richard Lugar (R-Ind.), Paul Sarbanes (D-Md.) and Arlen Specter (R-Pa.).

The senators suggested to Reagan that when he meets with Gorbachev on Dec. 8 he may want to describe the massive rally that is to be held here Dec. 6 in support of Soviet Jewry.

They noted the Washington mobilization on the eve of the summit will deliver the message that "we will not turn our back on the plight of the Jewish minority and others in the Soviet Union who are denied their human rights."

While noting that they are "encouraged by positive steps taken recently by the Soviet government," the senators stressed that "we remain concerned that harassment of activists continues and that emigration figures are still far below expectations.

"We are also concerned about the apparent increase in refusals based on alleged possession of 'state secrets,' often in cases where security clearance was never held or had long since expired," the letter said.

It urged Reagan to "continue pressing Secretary Gorbachev, as you have done in the past, on the Soviet human rights record and the emigration process.

"It is imperative that we remind the Soviet government, as signatories to numerous international accords, of their obligations to uphold human rights and freedoms for all citizens of the Soviet Union."

B'NAI B'RITH CANADA LEAGUE ORDERED TO PAY HEAVY FINES IN DEFAMATION SUIT

By Ben Kayfetz

TORONTO, Nov. 29 (JTA) -- A six-person jury in Winnipeg has awarded 400,000 Canadian dollars (U.S. $305,000) to a former candidate for Parliament who sued B'nai B'rith Canada for defamation.

This is regarded as one of the largest such awards in Canadian legal history. The group plans to appeal.

Luba Fedorkiw, who ran for the Progressive Conservative Party in Winnipeg during the 1984 general election, sued the League for Human Rights of B'nai B'rith Canada after a local newspaper reported the league was investigating allegations that she had made anti-Semitic comments.

The newspaper, the Winnipeg Sun, was not charged. Of the fine, $175,000 (Canadian) was for damage to reputation and $225,000 (Canadian) was for punitive damages.

The report appeared in the Sun on July 10, 1984 after Fedorkiw's nomination and less than two months before the election date. She was defeated by David Orlikow of the New Democratic Party, a longtime incumbent.

The league's investigation eventually revealed no evidence of anti-Semitism, and the organization made this public, but this apparently had no effect on the outcome of the court case.

"A sad precedent," "ridiculous," "unbelievable," "the cure worse than the illness," were some of the phrases and descriptions used by the Winnipeg Sun in an editorial the day following judgment.

There was no proof, it said, that the report affected Fedorkiw's chance of election. B'nai B'rith Canada, said the editorial, was being "punished for merely doing its job."

"The amount of damages," said the Sun, was "staggering."

Martin Boroditsky, a former member of B'nai B'rith's executive board in Winnipeg, testified for the plaintiffs at the trial and is alleged to have leaked the investigation to the Sun. He said he hopes the award will force B'nai B'rith to re-examine its procedures.

"Maybe this will make them realize they are not a Jewish human rights commission. . . and have no absolute powers," he said.

Lyle Smordin, chairman of the League for Human Rights in Winnipeg, said the league sees no need to change its procedures other than "keeping things in the strictest of confidence."

U.N. PARTITION DAY PASSES WITH LITTLE VIOLENCE

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Nov. 29 (JTA) -- Sporadic disturbances in the administered territories Sunday marked the 40th anniversary of the United Nations General Assembly resolution to partition Palestine into Jewish and Arab states.

The anniversary has always been an occasion for unrest among the Palestinian population. But there were no serious incidents Sunday. The only reported casualty was a resident of the Balata refugee camp near Nablus, who was shot and wounded by Israeli soldiers when he ignored an order to halt.

There were several rock-throwing incidents. Security forces used tear gas to disperse a demonstration by Palestinian youths at the Askar refugee camp near Nablus. Students at some schools in Nablus and Hebron boycotted their classes. Elsewhere, Arab merchants refused to open their shops.

In Israel proper, an explosive charge found in the Gilo neighborhood of Jerusalem was safely dismantled. A roadblock was put up by unknown parties near the Arab village of Meghar in Galilee, a rare occurrence in Israel.

PRE-HISTORIC HUMAN BONES UNEARTHED

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Nov. 29 (JTA) -- Human bones that experts date back some 8,000 years were found recently at the site of an ancient submerged village on the Mediterranean seabed offshore from the town of Atlit.

The discovery was made by Professor Avraham Ronen and researcher Ehud Galili of Haifa University. The marine archaeologists spotted the bones after a storm that cleared away layers of sand that had covered them. They were reported in an "excellent state of preservation."

Examination of one of the skeletons detected signs that the person suffered from an ear infection common among sea divers. If this is proven

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correct, it would be the first evidence that human beings dived for fish in pre-historic times.

The village itself, under 46 feet of water, was discovered four years ago. It is believed to have met its fate at the end of the last Ice Age, when rising waters flooded the coastal plane.

CONTROVERSY OVER FASSBINDER PLAY SPARKS CRITICISM OF DUTCH JEWS

By Henrietta Boas

AMSTERDAM, Nov. 29 (JTA) -- Dutch Jews, whose vigorous protests prevented the presentation of a reputedly anti-Semitic play by Rainer Werner Fassbinder here last week, are concerned that they may have unleashed an anti-Semitic backlash in Holland.

The play, titled "Garbage, the City and Death," was withdrawn, reluctantly, by its sponsor, the Amsterdam Theatrical Academy, five days after its scheduled premier performance on the night of Nov. 18 was aborted when Jewish demonstrators occupied the stage at the Lantern Theater. The play's tour of theaters in Arnhem, Utrecht and Haarlem was also canceled.

But the controversy, which had raged for two months and enlisted many non-Jews on the side of the protestors, has aroused great public interest and some strong opinions. The weekly Haagse Post published a Dutch translation of the play late last week and was sold out almost as soon as it hit the newsstands.

Local dailies are filled with letters to the editors, most of which express the view that the Jews who suffered so much themselves should not have resorted to "Nazi methods" to prevent freedom of expression.

The prestigious daily NRC Handelsblad, published a long article by Milo Amstadt, a former television producer of Jewish origin, who defended the play's depiction of one of its main characters, an exploiter, as "the rich Jew."

According to Amstadt, who was once a communist but later joined the Labor Party, it was only natural to portray a Jew as rich since most of the German Jews who survived the Nazi era were rich, while the Jewish proletariat was left to its fate, he said.

Lody Van De Kamp, an Orthodox rabbi from The Hague, warned in the Dutch-Jewish weekly NIW that the atmosphere in Holland has suddenly become so anti-Jewish that Jews should consider emigrating and settling in Israel.

Meanwhile, the Theatrical Company Amsterdam has announced plans to screen two Nazi films early next year -- the notoriously anti-Semitic "Jew Suess" and Leni Riefenstahl's "Triumph of the Will." They will be shown in the framework of the Karl Kraus Project.

Kraus, an Austrian Jewish author, revived the films to show to what depths the Austrian people sank under the influence of Nazi propaganda. His project is subsidized in Holland by the Amsterdam municipality, the Austrian Embassy and the Netherlands Ministry of Culture.

EBAN URGES SPAIN TO PLAY ROLE IN FOSTERING ARAB-JEWISH PEACE

By Gary Abramson

MADRID, Nov. 29 (JTA) -- Abba Eban appealed last week to the leaders of Spain and the Spanish people to use their unique position as a member of the European Community and a bridge to the Arab world to play a constructive, if indirect, role to improve prospects for peace in the Middle East.

"Spain should ask itself, as the cradle where Jews and Arabs coexisted, it if does not have a conciliatory role to play," Eban said at a news conference here following a meeting with King Juan Carlos Thursday, the last day of his three-day visit to Spain.

Eban, a Labor member of the Knesset and chairman of its foreign affairs and security committee, met Nov. 25 with Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez and Defense Minister Narcis Serra and addressed groups of Spanish parliamentarians, journalists and business leaders.

Spain established diplomatic relations with Israel in 1986, the last Western European country to do so. It made the move after becoming a member of the European Economic Community.

Territory For Peace

In his conversations with Spanish leaders and at his public appearances, Eban, an outspoken dove, stressed Israel's need to trade occupied territory for peace. "We have not found a solution to the need of exercising domination over another nation," he told reporters.

Eban said some alteration of Israel's pre-1967 borders would be necessary "in order not to include Arabs in Israeli sovereign territory." He said the territories relinquished by Israel in exchange for peace would become part of a Palestinian-Jordanian state. He also said he favored an international conference for Mideast peace.

Eban, who was foreign minister of Israel from 1966-1974, spoke out on behalf of a major political opponent, Commerce and Industry Minister Ariel Sharon, whose planned visit to Spain was canceled by the Spanish government last month because of Sharon's role in Israel's invasion of Lebanon in 1982 when he was defense minister.

Eban said he discussed the matter with Spanish officials and hoped the visit would be rescheduled "in the near future."

Speaking at a luncheon at the Club Siglo XXI, a private organization that fosters political debate, Eban suggested that Spain examine its parallels with Jewish history to better understand Israel, a country of which many Spaniards are sharply critical. "Both peoples have known tyranny and appreciate democracy," he said.

KIRKPATRICK FORUM THEME ANNOUNCED

TEL AVIV, Nov. 29 (JTA) -- "Forty Years After Independence: Israel and the United States" will be the theme of the third Jeane Kirkpatrick Forum for Public Leadership and Public Policy to be held at Tel Aviv University December 20-21, it was announced here Sunday.

The forum is named for the former U.S. ambassador to the United Nations. The two-day conference will discuss how Israel attained its political independence, its road to economic independence, peaceful coexistence between religion and state, and the goals and realities of nation-building.

The first Kirkpatrick forum, held in December 1986, dealt with local authority in Israel and its interaction with the government and citizens.

The second conference, in May 1987, had as its theme power-sharing and the politics of the national unity government in light of the Israeli and European experiences.

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POLITICIANS EXAMINE WHERE FAULT LIES FOR LAST WEEK'S TERRORIST ATTACK

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Nov. 30 (JTA) -- Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin told the Knesset Monday that the Israel Defense Force high command has issued strict orders to all units aimed at preventing a recurrence of the events on the night of Nov. 25, when a single glider-borne terrorist killed six soldiers and wounded seven at an IDF encampment near Kiryat Shemona in upper Galilee.

He assured the lawmakers that the matter would not be dropped "until the proper lessons of that unfortunate incident are fully learned."

Chief of Staff Gen. Dan Shomron, meanwhile, assured settlers in northern Israel Sunday that the IDF is correcting the security failures that allowed the attack to succeed.

He said the IDF has the appropriate means to deal with future terrorist attempts to infiltrate Israel by air and that the military high command will take the proper disciplinary measures. He stressed however that the IDF will not act hastily to "make heads roll."

The incident, which has severely shaken Israelis' confidence in their northern defense system, was the subject of sometimes heated debate in the Cabinet at its regular weekly session Sunday.

Sharon Blames Rabin

The ministers were briefed by Rabin. But Rabin was attacked by Commerce and Industry Minister Ariel Sharon, a Likud hardliner, who maintained that the problem was not a lack of alertness at the encampment but the absence of "clear directives from the political echelon to the defense forces to wipe out terror."

Deputy Premier David Levy, another Likud minister, defended the defense establishment. He said that because of one mistake it has been forgotten that the northern border has been sealed and secure since Israel withdrew its forces from Lebanon in 1984.

Rabin himself pointed to the relative calm on the northern border for the past two-and-a-half years. But he admitted it was achieved at a high cost -- 21 soldiers killed, 103 wounded, two kidnapped and one air force navigator taken prisoner after his Phantom jet crashed, or was shot down. Rabin noted that some 10,000 terrorists belonging to dozens of different terrorist groups are presently active in Lebanon.

Premier Yitzhak Shamir told the Cabinet that the IDF would soon draw the appropriate conclusions from the attack. Addressing the annual luncheon meeting of newspaper editors Monday, Shamir was asked if he blamed Syria for the attack. He replied that Syria identified with "this kind of terrorism," but would not elaborate.

Shamir complained, however, that "even in Egypt, voices are heard praising last Wednesday's terror attack in Galilee."

It was learned, meanwhile, that army units and settlements in the area of the attack had a 20- to 30-minute advance warning that an infiltrator was approaching by air.

The first report of a "moped overhead" in the dark, moonless sky, was verified by a second source. A moped is a motorized bicycle. The hang-glider used by the terrorist was powered by a bicycle motor.

The unit that suffered the casualties was part of Nahal, the IDF section that combines military training with agricultural work. Shomron said Nahal was a first-class fighting unit and the errors made at the upper Galilee encampment were not typical.

The sentry on duty at the gate reportedly fled when the terrorist threw a grenade at him. The soldier was from a family that had lost one son in combat.

It is IDF policy not to recruit members of bereaved families for front-line or forward-area duty in order to spare such families the risk of losing other members. In this case, apparently, that policy was not followed.

Third Hang-Glider Cited

Shomron disclosed that a third hang-glider may have been launched on last week's assault but either crashed or turned back before it reached the Israeli-controlled security zone in southern Lebanon.

A second glider landed in the security zone about 1,500 feet short of the Israel-Lebanon border. Its pilot was killed by an IDF patrol.

Reports from Lebanon Monday indicated that Palestinian terrorists in southern Lebanon are girding for massive retaliation by Israel. Officers of the United Nations peace-keeping force in southern Lebanon were quoted by Haaretz Monday as reporting the flight of civilian residents of refugee camps in the area where the terrorists have their bases.

Hadashot reported that the terrorists themselves have fortified their bases and are on high alert for an IDF reprisal. Reports from the Sidon area said there was fear that "Israel is likely to undertake a joint military action by land and sea at any moment."

A report from the Ein Hilwe refugee camp said the terrorists strengthened their coastal defenses after Israel navy patrol boats were sighted close offshore. They have also mobilized their anti-aircraft defenses, which consist primarily of Soviet-made SAM-7 ground-to-air missiles.

The Christian radio station "Voice of Lebanon" was quoted by Hadashot as saying that an IDF tank column was seen moving along the coastal highway north of Nakura in the direction of Tyre. The report was not confirmed.

(Tel Aviv correspondent Hugh Orgel also contributed to this story.)

COURT'S SABBATH RULING PROVOKES BATTLES IN KNESSET AND ON STREETS

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Nov. 30 (JTA) -- The battle between ultra-Orthodox and secular Jews over mandatory enforcement of Sabbath observance in Jerusalem did not end when a local court ruled last week that a city ordinance forbidding the opening of movie theaters on Friday nights was invalid.

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The fight has been taken by the Orthodox to the Knesset, the Cabinet and into the streets. Given the delicate balance of Israeli coalition politics, the victory won by Jerusalem's non-observant community may be short-lived.

Thousands of ultra-Orthodox Jews disrupted traffic Monday on Jaffa Road, one of the main arteries of the capital, in a mass demonstration against Sabbath desecration. They recited prayers of mourning and waved signs reading "Observe the Sabbath" and "The KGB has come to Israel."

One of them told a reporter that "the court ruling has proven to us once again to what extent Zionism conflicts with the Torah."

The two chief rabbis, Avraham Shapiro (Ashkenazic) and Mordechai Eliahu (Sephardic) fiercely denounced the court's decision at a gathering of rabbis affiliated with the National Religious Party in Jerusalem. They said the situation has become intolerable and if not rectified, the NRP could not remain in the government.

The possibility of a coalition crisis arising from the court decision was the reason for consultations held this week between the religious parties and both Premier Yitzhak Shamir and Foreign Minister Shimon Peres, the leaders of Likud and the Labor Party respectively.

A Change In 'Status Quo'?

Both men reportedly assured their religious coalition partners that they would not permit any change of "the status quo" in the country. The "status quo" refers to an unwritten agreement dating from the founding of the state which tries to maintain a balance between individual rights and enforcement of religious laws and customs. Orthodox and secular Jews have each accused the other, over the years, of trying to undermine the status quo.

Religious Affairs Minister Zevulun Hammer of the NRP said Monday that he found a willingness by both Labor and Likud to preserve the status quo. He told Voice of Israel radio that legislation would be enacted soon to allow local municipalities to impose religious bylaws.

The ruling by the municipal court last week was that the imposition of restrictions on individual rights could be decreed only by the Knesset, not the City Council. Shamir said Monday that if Knesset legislation was needed, he would support it.

Meanwhile, new friction has developed between the Orthodox community and the Jerusalem police. Police Chief Yosef Yehudai told the Knesset Interior Committee Monday that the police intend to bring charges against City Council member Meir Porush of the Agudat Israel party for his involvement in a violent demonstration by ultra-Orthodox Jews on Nov. 21, a Saturday.

The matter was raised in the committee by a bloc of religious Knesset members, including Rabbi Menahem Porush, father of the councilman. They complained of police brutality, charging that Orthodox M.K.s and City Council members were beaten by police and treated "brutally and in a humiliating manner."

But Yehudai insisted the police used only minimum force to quell the rioting by Orthodox Jews, which threatened to disrupt traffic on roads adjacent to the religious neighborhoods.

He said there was a "good case" against Councilman Porush "for illegal assembly, disturbance of public order and hindering a police officer in carrying out his duty."

ORTHODOX ASSAIL REFORM MOVEMENT AND PERCEIVED CHANGES IN STATUS QUO

SWAN LAKE, N.Y., Nov. 30 (JTA) -- Orthodox Jewish leaders meeting here over the weekend fiercely attacked leaders of Reform Judaism for allegedly trying to undo the religious status quo in Israel and vowed to overturn a recent Jerusalem municipal court ruling allowing the opening of movie theaters there on Friday nights.

The leaders and nearly 3,000 delegates attending the 65th national convention of the Agudath Israel of America also heaped scorn on world Jewish leaders who enter into dialogue with the Vatican.

Rabbi Moshe Sherer, president of the Agudath Israel of America, declared in his keynote address that "Jewry's face should flame with shame that a Jewish court in Jerusalem could issue such a decree against the Sabbath, particularly after the unchallenged acceptance of these laws for 30 years under the non-Jewish British Mandate and for 40 years under the State of Israel."

He vowed "action and not just tears," adding that "in Israel, they must know that religious Jewry throughout the world will not sit silently by and permit Jerusalem to be turned into another Paris."

Sherer accused Reform leaders of supporting reversal of Jerusalem's Sabbath laws and other "status quo" accommodations and "making a deal with Israeli politicians in order to import their ersatz brand of Judaism to Israel" and "cunningly manipulating the media to poison the minds of the public to resent Orthodox Jews."

He expressed outrage at the Reform movement's recent decision to bring its own "version of Judaism" to Jews in the Soviet Union. "The last thing needed by these heroic Jews, who are risking so much to reclaim the Torah. . . is to be misled by American Reform rabbis who teach that Torah is not inviolate," Sherer said.

At another convention forum, Rabbi Nosson Scherman, a scholar, author and editor of Artscroll Publications, assailed "the so-called 'Jewish leaders' (who) scurried to Castel Goldolfo (the papal summer residence) to confront Pope John Paul with their angry protests and righteous demands, emerged from the audience with beatific smiles, then converged in Miami for the long-planned love-fest on television.

"They announced as a positive result of this meeting a conference on the Holocaust, and now, lo and behold, that too has not materialized," Scherman said.

He observed that Torah scholars revered by Orthodox Jews have consistently ruled that it is permitted and often required to deal with the Church on issues of common concern, while they specifically forbid religious dialogue or extension of "craven honors" to other faith communities, often initiated out of concern for headlines rather than the true welfare of Jews.

ISRAELI TO HEAD INTERNATIONAL GROUP

By Tamar Levy

GENEVA, Nov. 30 (JTA) -- The Intergovernmental Committee for Migration has elected Pinchas Eliav, Israeli ambassador of the United Nations in Geneva, as its president for one year. It is the first time an Israeli has been appointed to preside over an international organization.

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WEEK FULL OF SOVIET JEWRY EVENTS TO PRECEDE MOBILIZATION ON SUNDAY

By Susan Birnbaum

NEW YORK, Nov. 30 (JTA) -- Washington is abuzz this week with a myriad of activities on behalf of Soviet Jewry, to culminate in the mass mobilization Sunday on the eve of the summit meeting between President Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev.

On Tuesday morning, Senators for Soviet Jewry will discuss the issue of seriously ailing refuseniks who have received multiple refusals on "secrecy" grounds.

The news conference in the Russell Senate Building, organized by Sen. Pete Wilson (R-Calif.), will draw specific attention to the three-generation family of Leonid Bialy and Judith Ratner-Bialy in Moscow, who received their 14th refusal a week-and-a-half ago and were told their case would not be renewed until 1992.

The decision was made to focus on the Bialy family because of the juxtaposition of their most recent refusal and the summit meeting. Both Judith and Leonid are seriously ill.

The participants will include Soviet Jewish emigres Leon Charny and his niece, Anna Charny Blank, who are also campaigning for exit visas for Benjamin Charny, as well as Vladimir Bravve, widower of Rimma Bravve, who died of cancer in June in Rochester, N.Y., after a seven-year battle to join her mother and sister and receive medical treatment. The participants decided it would be more effective to focus on a small number of families in order to maximize their cause.

On Wednesday, more than 200 members of Congress are expected to participate in the fifth annual Congressional Fast and Prayer Vigil. The event, organized by Reps. John Porter (R-Ill.) and Robert Mrazek (D-N.Y.), was founded in 1983 and is one of several annual activities sponsored by national Jewish organizations and the Congressional Human Rights Caucus.

Members of Congress who participate agree to fast from sunrise to sunset. At 11:30 a.m., participants will gather on the east steps of the Capitol for a non-religious ceremony "on behalf of all refuseniks in light of restrictive Soviet emigration policies," according to Porter's press secretary, Dave Kohn.

'Helsinki' Hearings Set

On Friday morning, five former Soviet refuseniks will discuss the struggle of Soviet Jewry at a hearing before the Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe, frequently called the Helsinki Commission.

The hearing, to take place in the Rayburn House Office Building, will focus on the issues of "state secrets," anti-Semitism in the Soviet Union and the overall significance of the Reagan-Gorbachev summit for Soviet Jews.

Participants will offer their own observations on Gorbachev's policy of reform. Among those invited to testify are former prisoners of Zion Natan Sharansky, Ida Nudel, Vladimir Slepak, Yuli Edelshtein and Lev Elbert.

Friday at noon, a news conference to discuss the schedule for Sunday's march will be convened at the Capital Hilton Hotel by the Summit Task Force, and will include Morris Abram, chairman of the National Conference on Soviet Jewry, and Nudel, Sharansky and Slepak.

Sunday evening following the march and demonstration, two dinners are scheduled to honor former refuseniks. The American Jewish Committee will hold a dinner at the Sheraton Grand Hotel, preceded by a 6:30 news conference at which Sharansky will share his impressions of the mobilization by the Jewish community. He will then offer a final plea to Reagan and Gorbachev on the eve of their summit meeting.

At the dinner following, scheduled for 7, Sharansky will receive the AJCommittee's highest award, the American Liberties Medallion, for being a "courageous fighter for Jewish dignity" and "for exceptional advancement of the principles of human liberty."

At 8:30 p.m., the United Jewish Appeal will open its National Campaign Cabinet meeting at the Mayflower Hotel with a tribute to Soviet Jewry. At the conclave, which was moved from its original New York venue to Washington because of the march, the UJA will honor former refuseniks, among them Yuli Edelshtein and Vladimir Slepak.

Updated List of Participants

An updated list of speakers for Freedom Sunday for Soviet Jews includes Abram; former refuseniks and prisoners of conscience Edelshtein, Iosif Mendelevich, Nudel, Sharansky and Slepak; Nobel laureate Elie Wiesel; Vice President George Bush; Senate Minority Leader Robert Dole; and Helen Jackson, founder of the Congressional Wives for Soviet Jewry.

Entertainers expected at the massive rally include singers Pearl Bailey, Paul Simon and Mary Travers.

On Monday morning following the march, a news conference will be held at the Capital Hilton Hotel to wrap up Sunday's events and provide briefings on Soviet Jewry issues to be discussed during the summit.

ADMINISTRATION SIGNALS SUPPORT FOR SUNDAY'S SOVIET JEWRY RALLY

By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, Nov. 30 (JTA) -- The massive rally in support of Soviet Jewry scheduled Sunday for the National Mall is an "impressive" way to demonstrate to the Soviet Union the concern of Americans for this issue, a senior Reagan administration official said Monday.

"These people are demonstrating on behalf of a cause with which this administration, this country. . . are deeply committed," the official said in briefing reporters on next week's summit meeting here between President Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev.

Rejecting a suggestion that the demonstration might put a "cloud" over the summit, the official said that instead he expected "it to put a spotlight on this issue."

Jews from all over the country are planning to come here for the Washington mobilization. The official said he expects the demonstration to be "dignified, orderly, but a very impressive demonstration of concern" which is how it will be explained to the Soviets.

"Human rights is going to figure prominently during the summit," a second official at the White House briefing stressed. "It is something the president of the United States cares very deeply about."

But, he said, the administration does not expect any "breakthroughs" on human rights to come at the summit, although they would be very welcome.

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GREECE SAYS IT CANNOT ASK FOR BRUNNER'S EXTRADITION
By Jean Cohen

ATHENS, Dec. 1 (JTA) -- The Greek government favors bringing Nazi war criminals to justice but cannot demand the extradition of Alois Brunner, because it is bound by laws passed during a previous administration, government spokesman Yannis Roumbatis said Sunday.

The Greek Jewish community had made a formal request to the government a year ago to seek the extradition of Brunner from Syria, where he has lived for more than 20 years.

Brunner, a deputy and chief aide to Adolf Eichmann, arrived in Salonika, Greece, in February 1943 and immediately signed orders for the extermination of the 46,000 Jews in the city.

Roumbatis said that two laws -- Nos. 3933 and 4016 -- adopted in 1959 when Greece was ruled by the conservative government of Konstantinos Karamanlis, suspended the prosecution of war criminals in Greece and transferred that right to West German legal authorities.

According to Roumbatis, the present socialist regime headed by Premier Andreas Papandreou is unhappy with this situation and wants it made clear that those laws do not reflect current government policy.

Favors Prosecution Of War Criminals

"The intention and wish of our country is that those war criminals that are running around free in the world be caught and brought to justice," he said.

On Nov. 25, 1986, the Central Jewish Board of Greece, an umbrella organization of the country's 5,000 Jews, asked the government to seek Brunner's extradition. The central board, an affiliate of the World Jewish Congress, made the request after it was firmly established that Brunner was living in Damascus.

Brunner confirmed it himself in an interview with the West German magazine Bunte in 1985 after living for years under the alias Georg Fischer. Bunte claimed at the time that Brunner was prepared to give himself up as long as he had assurances he would not be handed over to Israel.

The war criminal, now 74, is also wanted by Austria, France, West Germany and Czechoslovakia in connection with the mass deportation of Jews and other atrocities. So far he has enjoyed the protection of the Syrian regime headed by President Hafez Assad.

On Nov. 11, Rev. Jesse Jackson, a candidate for the Democratic presidential nomination, wrote to Assad, with whom he has friendly relations, asking for Brunner's extradition to West Germany. Jackson acted at the behest of Nazi hunter Beate Klarsfeld.

ORTHODOX DENY REPORTS THEY OPPOSE APPOINTMENT OF WOMAN CONSUL GENERAL
By Yitzhak Rabi

NEW YORK, Nov. 30 (JTA) -- Orthodox Jewish leaders in New York responded with surprise Monday to a report in the Israeli newspaper Haaretz that Orthodox Jewish circles in New York oppose the appointment of a woman as Israel's consul general in New York.

According to Haaretz, Israel's Foreign Ministry fears that such opposition can foil the appointment of Colette Avital to the post, which is presently held by Moshe Yegar.

Avital heads the Foreign Ministry's information and media division. She was appointed this week as assistant director general of the foreign ministry. Avital is Foreign Minister Shimon Peres' preferred candidate for the post of Israel's consul general in New York.

"This is the first time I heard about it," Rabbi Pinchas Stopler, executive vice president of the Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations of America, told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency when he was asked about the Haaretz report. He said that while he may have "some reservations" about appointing a woman to serve as Israel's consul general, he certainly does not "oppose" it.

Rabbi Binyamin Walfish, executive vice president of the Rabbinical Council of America, and Rabbi Yehuda Krinsky, a spokesman for Agudas Chasidei Chabad (also known as the Chabad Lubavitch Movement), also said that they have not heard of any opposition to a woman as consul general here.

"Basically, I see no reason why a woman should not be Israel's consul general in New York," Krinsky said, adding, however, that he has to "find out" what halacha, Jewish law, rules in such a case.

Consul General Yegar told the JTA that he heard "some rumors" that some Orthodox Jews might oppose the appointment of a woman to represent Israel in the highest diplomatic post in New York. But, Yegar added, "Colette Avital is an excellent candidate for the post. And besides, appointments of the Foreign Ministry are the sole responsibility of the government of Israel and no one else."

Yegar said that he expects to complete his tour of duty here within the next eight to 12 months.

(Tel Aviv correspondent Hugh Orgel also contributed to this story.)

EAST BERLIN'S JEWS ARE SAFE, BUT WORRIED BY RECENT ARRESTS
By David Kantor

BONN, Nov. 30 (JTA) -- A crackdown by the East German authorities last week on members of the Zion Church in East Berlin, a Protestant congregation known for its sympathy toward Jews, has aroused concern in East Berlin's small Jewish community.

But members of the community told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency in telephone interviews Sunday that no action has been taken against Jews and there seems to be no immediate threat.

They said the arrest by Strassi, the East German secret police, of several church activists in East Berlin and elsewhere and the confiscation of books were probably irrelevant to the Christian-Jewish contacts maintained by the Zion Church. Nevertheless the move was seen as a warning to opposition groups that enjoy some degree of support by the church.

The Protestant church in East Germany actively promotes dialogue with the Jews and has frequently warned against anti-Semitic tendencies. Neo-Nazis recently stormed the Zion Church premises and injured several congregants.

BEN-GURION MEMORIALIZED ON YAHRTZEIT

TEL AVIV, Nov. 30 (JTA) -- Israel's top leaders gathered Sunday at the gravesite of the late Premier David Ben-Gurion to mark the 14th anniversary of his death.

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AT THE SUMMIT: MUCH TALK, BUT LITTLE PROGRESS ON HUMAN RIGHTS AND EMIGRATION

By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, Dec. 13 (JTA) -- The issue of human rights was discussed throughout the summit between President Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev, but no agreements were announced when the three days of talks ended Thursday.

But this should not discourage supporters of Soviet Jewry, according to Richard Schifter, assistant secretary of state for human rights and humanitarian affairs.

"When we are talking about human rights, it's not so much what happens at the summit that counts," Schifter said in an interview with the Jewish Telegraphic Agency at his State Department office Friday. "It's what happens in between meetings."

Schifter said human rights came up in meetings between Reagan and Gorbachev, between Secretary of State George Shultz and Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze and between other officials and their Soviet counterparts.

Views were exchanged "with the hope that something is going to happen afterward," Schifter said. He noted that in the weeks before the summit, 48 Soviet Jewish families were allowed to emigrate.

While conceding that this is a small number, Schifter said that at least for these families, their long ordeal is over.

Schifter said now that the summit is over he did not expect the Soviets to slow down Jewish emigration, which has been running at more than 700 a month since April, compared to only 914 in all of 1986.

He noted that are is a continuing agenda on issues the Soviets are pressing, including a summit in Moscow next year and Senate ratification of the treaty on medium- and short-range missiles, which Reagan and Gorbachev signed last Wednesday.

Reagan Reports Progress

Reagan made mention of the importance of human rights to United States-Soviet relations in every one of his public statements during the summit, including his televised report to the American people Thursday night.

"On human rights, there was some very limited movement: resolution of a number of individual cases, in which prisoners will be released or exit visas granted," the president said. "There were assurances of future, more substantial movement, which we hope to see become a reality."

One change, according to Schifter, is that parents will no longer be able to deny adult children permission to emigrate without "showing good cause" such as financial dependence or illness.

The joint statement issued by the United States and the Soviet Union issued at the end of the summit had one sentence on human rights. "The leaders held a thorough and candid discussion of human rights and humanitarian questions and their place in the U.S.-Soviet dialogue," it said.

Gorbachev appeared irritated when the subject was raised in his meetings with members of Congress and private Americans. He reportedly told Reagan when the president outlined his views, "you are not the prosecutor and I am not the accused."

During a 70-minute monologue in which Gorbachev opened his news conference before leaving Washington Thursday, the Soviet leader chided reporters for constantly raising the human rights issue and said this is why he had not granted more interviews.

WALDHEIM DENIES NEW CHARGES OF INVOLVEMENT IN ATROCITIES

By Reinhard Engel (Vienna) and Susan Birnbaum (New York)

Dec. 13 (JTA) -- Austrian President Kurt Waldheim has denied new allegations about his personal involvement in atrocities committed against Yugoslav partisans during World War II, though he has admitted knowing of them.

He has also moved to suc an Austrian periodical for publishing a story about his reputed acceptance of bribes in exchange for sparing the lives of hostages in Yugoslavia in 1943 and 1944.

The new allegations surfaced as an international commission meeting in Vienna, which Waldheim himself convened, broadened the scope of its investigation against him after receiving testimony from his wartime colleagues.

On Thursday, articles alleging Waldheim's Nazi activities in Yugoslavia were published in two German-language magazines, the West German Stern and the Austrian Wiener magazine.

The Stern article contended that the German army unit in which Waldheim was serving as a lieutenant was directly involved in massacres and deportations in the area of Kozara, Yugoslavia, during the summer of 1942.

A spokesman for Waldheim denied reports in Stern linking the Austrian president personally to the Kozara atrocities, in which some 4,000 Yugoslavs were killed and 10,000 others were sent to forced labor camps, where thousands died.

Initiates Legal Proceedings

On Friday, Waldheim initiated legal proceedings against Wiener for an article, written by American journalist Chuck Ashman, which charged that Waldheim, as an intelligence officer in the Wehrmacht during World War II, accepted gifts of coins and gold jewelry in exchange for sparing the lives of hostages in Yugoslavia in 1943 and 1944.

The Austrian Press Agency was quoted as saying that the Wiener article was intended to incite "feelings against the Austrian head of state by unqualified and untrue allegations."

The Chicago Tribune reported Sunday that Waldheim admitted in an interview with that paper that he knew of Nazi reprisals against Yugoslav partisans, but insists he was not involved in carrying them out.

"Orders to carry out reprisals existed," he

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told the Tribune on Friday, but "They came from the highest war office in Berlin. That was well known by everyone. Only I was not involved in it."

Waldheim said in the interview that he was a victim of "a defamation campaign against me by all kinds of circles" and added that he has no intentions of resigning as Austrian president, despite increasing pressure to do so.

Didn't Take Part In Deportations

But Waldheim again rejected charges that he participated in reprisals against civilians or deportation of Jews to concentration camps during his term as an intelligence officer and interpreter in the Wehrmacht.

According to the report in Stern, Waldheim worked for a captain whose task included the coordination of fascist Croatian forces (Ustasha) and the German field police, as well as the installation of collection camps for prisoners of war.

According to a spokesman for Waldheim, his tasks had only included "office work, the reporting of and dealing with supply goods." The official explanation of Waldheim's war role is as a "subordinate supply officer" who did not "take part in any combat, intelligence or counterintelligence operations, nor in the handling of POWs or civilians during that assignment."

Waldheim told the Chicago Tribune that his main task as a 23-year-old first lieutenant was to compile a daily record of troop activities during the Wehrmacht campaign in the Balkans.

The new charges and admissions come as the Austrian-funded commission investigating Waldheim prepares to publish its conclusions in January, although additional information may push back publication of the findings to a later date.

Waldheim has reportedly said that although he himself convened the commission investigating him, he does not feel its verdict will be binding. He said, "A head of state could never submit himself to a private foreign tribunal." Waldheim said it is "up to me to decide on the consequences."

U.S. Official Under Fire

Meanwhile, a remark last week by Neil Sher of the U.S. Justice Department's Office of Special Investigations has triggered a diplomatic protest by the Austrian government.

Sher said that the documents leading to the U.S. decision to put Waldheim on the "watch list" for unwanted aliens had been based on evidence of his direct involvement in atrocities. However, he added, these documents could not be handed over to the international investigatory commission, since they were part of an internal investigation.

On Thursday, the secretary of the Austrian Foreign Ministry, Thomas Klestil, summoned the U.S. temporary envoy in Vienna, Philip Habib, to express the Austrian government's displeasure over the remark. At the same time, the Austrian ambassador in Washington lodged a protest to the U.S. government.

The mounting reports about Waldheim appear for the first time to be having a negative effect on the Austrian head of state's popularity.

A poll published by an Austrian paper Friday indicated that 50 percent of Austrians would favor Waldheim's resignation if the historians' commission found he knew about war crimes while in the army. A third of the persons asked were opposed.

The strongest criticism of Waldheim came from persons aged 30 to 49, of whom 60 percent favored a resignation, while older and younger Austrians remained under the 50 percent mark.

All previous polls have indicated that Waldheim would again be elected if he were a contender in new elections.

Meanwhile, Nazi-hunter Beate Klarsfeld was briefly detained Thursday by Austrian police in Vienna, where she was arrested for trying to paste anti-Waldheim posters on the former imperial palace. The posters recalled that 1988 will be the 50th anniversary of the Anschluss, Germany's annexation of Austria.

UNITED NATIONS FINDS ALL BUT 8 OF MISSING WAR CRIMES FILES

By Yitzhak Rabi

UNITED NATIONS, Dec. 13 (JTA) -- All but eight of the 433 files reported missing from the United Nations war crimes archives have been located and accounted for, according to a report submitted to Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar and released here Friday.

The report was prepared by Richard Foran, U.N. assistant secretary general for general services. He headed an investigation ordered by the secretary general after it was alleged that 433 of the 8,100 files had "mysteriously vanished."

The allegation appeared Tuesday in a New York Post article by Uri Dan, an Israeli, who was the first journalist given access to the files after they were opened to public inspection by Perez de Cuellar on Nov. 23.

According to the U.N. report, the missing files were in reality misplaced, and then found in one of two groups of files within the archives.

The report concluded that the "actual whereabouts of eight files remains undetermined. The existence of these files and a listing of names included in each file has been verified from the registers. In some cases, charges against the same individuals exist in other files.

"Since both the serial and the charge number of these eight files are known, an effort is under way to trace them."

The report was sharply critical of the article by Dan. The report said that Alf Erlandsson, director of the archives, and his staff "believed that the author was there (at the archives) to conduct genuine research into the contents of the files, not to report on the status of the files and the United Nations' husbandry of them."

Furthermore, the report said, Erlandsson "was surprised as anyone to read the article in question. He had not been aware of the fact that he was being interviewed and that he would be quoted, in his opinion, out of context. He believed that he was talking with an experienced researcher who would understand 'missing' in an archivist's context."

The archives, stored in New York, were compiled by the Allied War Crimes Commission and placed in U.N. custody in 1947, after which the commission disbanded.

RABIN BLAMES SYRIA, LIBYA FOR UNREST IN TERRITORIES

By Yitzhak Rabi

NEW YORK, Dec. 13 (JTA) -- Israeli Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin charged here Sunday that Syria and Libya are responsible for the recent wave of unrest in the administered territories and increased terrorist attacks on Israel.

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Their motive, he said, was to divert the attention of the Arab world away from the Iran-Iraq war and toward the Arab-Israeli conflict.

Speaking at a State of Israel Bonds luncheon at the Plaza Hotel here, Rabin noted that the Arab summit meeting in Amman, Jordan last month made it clear that the Arab world is more concerned with the Persian Gulf war and the threat of Iranian extremism than with Israel.

"The threat of Israel to the Arab world was reduced to secondary or even third place in importance," Rabin remarked. He said that most of the Arab countries -- with the exception of Syria and Libya -- were "ready to forgive and forget" Egypt's peace treaty with Israel and resume diplomatic relations with Egypt.

According to Rabin, Egypt, which did not attend the Amman summit, gained the most from it.

The Israeli defense chief left for Washington late Sunday afternoon. On Monday he is scheduled to meet with Defense Secretary Frank Carlucci and sign a new U.S.-Israel memorandum of understanding that will accord Israel the same status as America's NATO allies.

Rabin conceded at the Bonds luncheon that Israel suffered "a real setback which we are not proud of" when a single glider-borne terrorist managed to kill six Israel Defense Force soldiers and wound seven at a military base in upper Galilee on Nov. 25.

He said the IDF has taken all necessary measures to prevent such "mistakes" on its part in the future.

The luncheon, part of Israel Bonds National Cash Sunday, was attended by some 100 persons from New York City and the surrounding area.

IRANIAN-INSPIRED TERRORISTS LINKED TO NAVAL ATTACK

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Dec. 13 (JTA) -- A confrontation at sea Thursday night, in which an Israeli naval officer was killed by terrorist gunfire, has raised speculation here that Iranian-inspired terrorists operating from Lebanon are mounting suicide missions against the Israeli navy.

The naval officer, 2nd Lt. Amit Sela, 21, of Kibbutz Nahsholim, was buried here Friday.

Defense sources described the encounter, which took place at the mouth of the Litani River between Sidon and Tyre in southern Lebanon. An Israeli navy patrol boat sighted a small craft, initially identified as a motorized rubber dinghy and later as a speedboat about 33 feet long.

As the patrol boat approached and turned on its search light, the four occupants of the speed boat opened fire with automatic weapons and rocket-propelled grenades. The Israeli crew returned the fire at point-blank range. The smaller boat exploded, burned and sank. The patrol boat dropped explosive charges into the water to make sure there were no survivors.

At a news conference in Haifa Friday, defense sources said it was not inconceivable that the speedboat was on a suicide mission. Two Lebanese groups claimed credit -- Hezbollah, the pro-Iranian extremist organization and Amal, the mainstream Shiite militia.

A navy source said that an analysis of the craft and tactics used in the attack indicates that the terrorists belonged to Hezbollah, which began naval activities at the end of 1985, under the influence of the Iranian guards. Both the boat and methods used were said to be similar to those used by Iran in its attacks on shipping in the Perisan Gulf.

The Israeli daily Maariv, quoting the Beirut weekly Al-Kifah Al-Arabi, reported that Palestinian terrorist organizations have recently deployed missile-equipped speed boats along the coast from Tyre and Sidon, as far north as Beirut, for suicide attacks on the Israeli navy.

Until now, terrorists have used rubber dinghies in attempts to infiltrate Israel by sea. Most have been intercepted and sunk by Israel's fast Dabour-class patrol boats. The terrorists have usually attempted to escape by swimming. They seldom fire on Israeli naval craft and casualties among naval personnel are rare.

SYRIA APPLAUDS TERRORIST ATTACK AND WARNS AGAINST RETALIATION

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Dec. 13 (JTA) -- Syria appears to have confirmed its involvement in a recent attack by a glider-borne terrorist and is warning Israel that retaliation against targets in Syria would mean war.

The attack, on the night of Nov. 25, killed six Israel Defense Force soldiers and wounded seven at an upper Galilee military base.

The Arab affairs correspondent of the Israeli daily Haaretz reported Sunday that Syrian Defense Minister Mustafa Tlas boasted over the weekend that Syria provides unlimited assistance to "the Palestinian struggle against the Zionist occupation forces."

Speaking to the graduating class at an air force academy, Tlas referred to "the heroic act of the (glider) pilot from Aleppo, Halad Muhammed Akar, who participated in an action in the north of Palestine and killed or wounded 37 Zionist soldiers and officers," Haaretz reported.

Tlas said that before leaving on his mission, Akar wrote to President Hafez Assad of Syria that the only way to liberate the homeland is a confrontation with the "Zionist enemy."

Davar's Arab affairs correspondent reported Sunday that Syrian propaganda organs have warned that if Israel hits Syrian targets or terrorist bases in Syria in retaliation for the glider attack, war is likely to break out between Syria and Israel.

The paper quoted the official Syrian newspaper Al-Baath as stating that "Israel must know that any move to attack Syria will mean war. . . and no one will be spared."

The Dubai newspaper Al-Biyan published an interview with the Palestine Liberation Organization's deputy chief, Abu Iyyad, who claimed that Israel is preparing attacks against a base in Syria of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command, PLO headquarters in the Bekaa Valley of eastern Lebanon and a PLO base in South Yemen.

According to Abu Iyyad, the Israeli attack had to be postponed because of the Reagan-Gorbachev summit meeting in Washington last week.

Lebanese radio stations and sources in Beirut reported Sunday that the IDF and its allied South Lebanon Army have armored forces poised in the southern Lebanon security zone to attack targets in southern Lebanon.

The sources said the IDF has concentrated three battalions in the Marjayoun area and trucks carrying Merkava and M-48 tanks were seen in the Jezzine area.

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NEW CHAIRMAN OF WZO ORDERS CUTBACKS ON FIRST DAY IN POST

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Dec. 13 (JTA) -- Simcha Dinitz ordered tough cost-cutting measures Sunday, his first day in office as chairman of the World Zionist Organization Executive.

Dinitz, a Labor member of the Knesset and former ambassador to the United States, is concentrating WZO activities in Jerusalem. He ordered the closure of his Tel Aviv office and instructed the heads of all WZO departments to do the same and work the full week in Jerusalem.

In addition, Dinitz froze short- and long-term missions abroad scheduled for the next few weeks, pending review. All contracts with outside companies will be reviewed and all intended new appointments to positions in the WZO will be held up, subject to review.

Dinitz was elected to the post Dec. 7 by the 31st World Zionist Congress, which concluded more than five days of meetings at dawn Friday. The congress ended in an uproar, with delegates throwing potted plants and other objects at each other on the dais.

At issue was the size of a broad Executive of the WZO that is to function alongside a smaller operational Executive. Labor representatives wanted the broad body to comprise 51 members, while Likud sought a smaller number.

Both major parties have nominated their key figures from the previous Executive to serve on the new one, but behind-the-scenes negotiations throughout the week-long congress here failed to produce agreement on the allocation of the chairmanships of the various WZO departments.

The final allocation has been postponed until the Jewish Agency Board of Governors meets in February, when the department heads will presumably receive the required consent of the fund-raisers.

VIOLINIST JASCHA HEIFETZ DEAD AT 86

By Haviva Krasner

NEW YORK, Dec. 13 (JTA) -- Jascha Heifetz, universally acclaimed as the greatest violinist of this century, died late Thursday night in Los Angeles, of complications resulting from a fall. He was 86.

Heifetz, who performed concerts throughout the world until age 73, was best known for his technical mastery of the violin, the elegance and fine detail of his playing, his insistence on perfection and his disinterest in publicity. He was once quoted as saying that there was nothing to write about his life other than the dates of his birth and premier performances.

Born to Annie and Ruvin Heifetz in Vilna, Russia in 1901, Heifetz had his first violin lesson at the age of 3 from his father, himself a violinist in a local theater. Before he was 7, he made his debut in Kovno.

By the age of 11, Heifetz had already been named one of the world's greatest violinists by conductor Artur Nikisch.

Legendary violinist Fritz Kreisler said of Heifetz: "When I hear that boy I want to throw away my fiddle."

Years later, a music critic for the Israeli newspaper Yediot Achronot described Heifetz as "the king of violinists and the violinist of kings."

In 1917, in the wake of the Russian Revolution and heightened persecution of Jews, Heifetz left Russia and settled in the United States. He made his American debut at Carnegie Hall on Oct. 27 of that year -- an event one critic called a "turning point in the musical history of the country."

Heifetz first visited Palestine in 1926 and donated funds at the time to build a Jewish music conservatory there. The Jascha Heifetz Hall was later built in Tel Aviv, the only music hall in the world to bear his name.

When he returned to Israel in 1953, Heifetz created an uproar by performing a sonata by Richard Strauss, whose music to this day is banned in Israel because of the composer's expressed allegiance to Hitler and the Nazi regime.

After playing the sonata at a concert in Haifa, Heifetz received threats from Herut activists and members of Betar, the Herut youth movement, warning him not to perform the controversial work. But saying that he would rather not play at all than submit to censorship, he continued to perform the piece at subsequent concerts.

During one such performance in Jerusalem, a group took over the concert hall and shut off all the lights, disrupting the concert for 10 minutes.

Afterward, as Heifetz was making his way from the King David Hotel to his car, a man walked up to him and beat him with a crowbar. The violinist's arm was slightly injured in the attack.

After the incidents in Jerusalem, David Ben-Gurion, who was prime minister at the time, sent a telegram of sympathy to Heifetz, saying that he would attend the violinist's final recital in Tel Aviv. At that concert, Heifetz omitted the Strauss sonata.

Heifetz spent the last decade of his life as a virtual recluse in Los Angeles, where he devoted all his professional time to teaching. From 1964 to 1982, he served on the faculty of the University of California School of Music, where he had an endowed chair.

Heifetz was married twice, first to Hollywood star Florence Vidor, whom he divorced in 1945, and then to Frances Spiegelberg, whom he married one year later and divorced in 1963. He is survived by a son from that marriage, Joseph, 39, and by two children from his first marriage, Josepha, 56, and Robert, 54.

U.N. PANEL BACKS PLO OFFICE

By Yitzhak Rabi

UNITED NATIONS, Dec. 13 (JTA) -- A resolution opposing moves by the U.S. Congress to close the United Nations observer mission of the Palestine Liberation Organization was approved by the General Assembly's legal committee Friday by 100 votes.

The sole negative vote was Israel's. The United States did not vote.

The resolution now goes to the entire General Assembly, where it is also expected to be adopted overwhelmingly.

The resolution states that the PLO was invited by the assembly in 1974 to take part in U.N. activities and should therefore be allowed to keep a mission here and have its personnel enter and stay in the United States.

The resolution called on the United States, as the host country, to abide by obligations it agreed to in the U.N. charter and to refrain from any action that would prevent the PLO observer mission from carrying out its functions.

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SOVIET SPOKESMAN SAYS ALL JEWS WHO WANT TO EMIGRATE HAVE DONE SO

By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, Dec. 9 (JTA) -- The official Soviet spokesman for the summit meetings between President Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev repeated the Soviet position Wednesday that most Jews who want to emigrate from the USSR have already done so.

Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman Gennady Gerasimov called "incorrect" claims made by organizations supporting Soviet Jewry in the United States that 400,000 Jews want to emigrate.

He said that about 1,000 Jews a month have obtained exit visas this year. He did not mention that most of them are from a list of 11,000 long-term refuseniks the United States had given Soviet authorities last year.

"We cannot merely encourage people to file these applications to leave, just to please some people here," Gerasimov said. He did not mention the new government regulations issued in January that make it more difficult to apply for exit visas.

Gerasimov, who is sharing the briefings on the Reagan-Gorbachev talks with White House spokesman Marlin Fitzwater, made his remarks in response to a question from Rabbi Avraham Weiss, national chairman of the Student Struggle for Soviet Jewry.

Weiss, who spent eight hours in jail Tuesday for going too close to the Soviet Embassy, also noted that the SSSJ and other groups have started a campaign to prevent the Soviet Union from receiving untied loans from American banks to finance trade with the United States, until emigration increases to the 1979 figure of 51,000.

"We are against linkage," Gerasimov said. He said that an attempt to expand Soviet trade with the United States in the 1970s was "killed by the Jackson-Vanik Amendment."

Reagan, Gorbachev Discuss Rights

Meanwhile, Fitzwater said that Reagan and Gorbachev "had long discussions on human rights." But it was not clear whether this occurred during the two-hour meeting they had Wednesday, much of it alone without their aides.

Fitzwater said the discussion centered on Afghanistan and the Iran-Iraq War. He said that while the Arab-Israeli conflict was on the original agenda, it had not been discussed as of Wednesday.

Reagan has referred to the importance of human rights in all of his public statements. Gorbachev has not mentioned it once.

But Fitzwater said a working group on human rights was set up Wednesday and it was possible that there would be a public statement on this issue after the closing summit session Thursday.

Meanwhile, Rabbi Arthur Schneier, president of the Appeal of Conscience Foundation, was among a group of prominent Americans who met with Gorbachev Tuesday at the Soviet Embassy. The human rights issue was not raised by any of the participants.

Schneier, who is rabbi of the Orthodox Park East Synagogue in New York, told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that he spoke briefly with Gorbachev who remarked on a comment by Schneier at an international forum in Moscow last February.

At the time, Schneier said that both Reagan and Gorbachev, in speeches on different topics, had used the phrase "if not now, when?" and predicted that a summit would be scheduled this year. Neither had credited the line to the sage Hillel's famous statement about the need to help others, the rabbi said.

He said both Gorbachev and his wife, Raisa, remembered the phrase.

Schneier, who a few weeks ago got the Soviets to agree to import Jewish prayer books and kosher food, is staying at the Madison Hotel, where the top Soviet officials are housed. He said this has enabled him to continue his discussions with Soviet officials on efforts to make it easier for Jews in the Soviet Union to observe their religion.

LABOR AND LIKUD BATTLE OVER COMPOSITION OF WZO EXECUTIVE

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Dec. 9 (JTA) -- The Labor Party and Likud continued to dicker Wednesday over the composition of the new World Zionist Organization Executive, to be elected at the 31st World Zionist Congress here this week. So far they seem far from an agreement.

Informed sources said Likud is demanding it get to fill the key office of WZO treasurer before it agrees to the distribution of other portfolios. The congress on Monday elected Laborite Simcha Dinitz to be chairman of the WZO Executive. He defeated the Likud candidate, Science and Technology Minister Gideon Patt, by a vote of 310-220.

Traditionally, the post of treasurer goes to the party of the losing candidate for chairman. But Labor hopes to relegate Likud to the relatively minor portfolios. It was reported reluctant to make any concessions unless Likud agrees in advance that Labor could head both the aliyah and settlement departments of the WZO.

Likud has proposed that the settlement department be shared by both parties, as is the case in the outgoing Executive.

Meanwhile, the Labor Zionist caucus named three members of the outgoing Executive to serve on the new Executive. They are Uzi Narkiss, Uri Gordon and Nissim Zvilli.

IDF SOLDIER KILLED IN LEBANON

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Dec. 9 (JTA) -- One Israel Defense Force soldier was killed and another injured when their armored personnel carrier triggered a road mine near Rashef village in the central sector of the southern Lebanon security zone Tuesday.

The dead soldier, Sgt. Ron Tandit of Moshav Amikam, near Hadera, was buried in the Binyamina cemetery Wednesday. He was killed on his 20th birthday.

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TERRORIST CONFESSES TO MURDER OF TWO WEST BANK SETTLERS
By Gil Sedan

ALFEI MENASHE, West Bank, Dec. 9 (JTA)-- A 25-year-old Arab from Kalkilya has confessed to the murder of two members of a Jewish settler family in the West Bank last April when he set their car ablaze with a Molotov cocktail, the Israel Defense Force announced Wednesday.

Ofra Moses, 35, from the settlement of Alfei Menashe, near Kalkilya, was burned to death and her 5-year-old son, Tal, died of burns three months later. Her husband, Abraham; their two other children, Nir, 15, and Adi, 9; and a friend, Yossi Hilleli, 14, were all badly burned, but they recovered.

Their faces and bodies are still scarred and they are still grieving over their loss. But the surviving members of the Moses family had an impromptu party at their home here Wednesday night to celebrate the capture of the killer. They sliced a huge cake, a personal gift from Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin.

The incident on the night of April 7 aroused fury among West Bank settlers, who accused the IDF of failure to protect them from terrorists. Several dozen settlers rampaged through Kalkilya, the nearest Arab town, the following night. They caused no injuries, but did considerable damage.

The Moses family learned of the arrest of the suspect, who has not been publicly identified, in a telephone call from the Defense Ministry Wednesday morning. They were told he confessed and re-enacted the attack.

Several hours later, Gen. Amram Mitzna, commander of the central sector, paid a personal visit on the family to inform them of the successful resolution to the case.

"I return a personal debt to the family and the entire people of Israel," Mitzna said. He pledged that from now on, the people of Alfei Menashe can travel safely on the local roads.

Abraham Moses told reporters later, "I am glad that the murderer was caught, but I am concerned he will not get his due punishment, the death sentence."

The suspect also reportedly confessed to other terrorist acts, including a Molotov cocktail attack four months ago on the car of Edna and Menashe Regev of Alfei Menashe. They were injured, but later recovered.

(Tel Aviv correspondent Hugh Orgel also contributed to this report.)

RABIN COMING TO U.S. TO SIGN PACT ON STRATEGIC COOPERATION
By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Dec. 9 (JTA) -- Israel and the United States will upgrade their 4-year-old strategic cooperation agreement when Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin visits Washington next week.

Rabin will sign a new memorandum of understanding with U.S. Defense Secretary Frank Carlucci, Haaretz reported Wednesday. According to Israel Embassy sources in Washington, it will parallel U.S. agreements with NATO allies.

One feature will give Israel its long-sought right to participate in bidding for U.S. army procurement contracts. That privilege was not specified in the strategic cooperation agreement signed during Premier Yitzhak Shamir's visit to Washington in November 1983. President Reagan announced at that time the creation of the U.S.-Israel Joint Political Military Group.

Rabin is due in New York Friday and will go to Washington Sunday for three days of talks with top administration officials. In addition to Carlucci, he will meet with Gen. Colin Powell, Reagan's national security adviser; Navy Secretary Joseph Webb; Army Secretary John Marsh; Deputy Secretary of State John Whitehead; and former Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger.

Rabin will visit the United States Military Academy at West Point, N.Y. on Dec. 16, before returning to Israel.

According to Haaretz, the defense minister will use his trip to the United States to promote Israel's military industries and, specifically, to seek an agreement enabling the American armed forces to purchase Israeli weapons systems.

U.S. FILES DENATURALIZATION PAPERS AGAINST ALLEGED NAZI
By Susan Birnbaum

NEW YORK, Dec. 9 (JTA) -- The U.S. Justice Department has initiated denaturalization proceedings against Stefan Reger, 65, an alleged SS guard at the Auschwitz-Birkenau concentration/death camp during World War II.

The Justice Department accuses Reger, a resident of Yardville, N.J., of lying about his alleged SS past to immigration officials when he entered the United States in 1952. He became a citizen in 1957.

According to the Justice Department, Reger, a native of Filipovo, Yugoslavia, was an SS guard at Auschwitz-Birkenau between March 1943 and January 1945. Reger had said he served in the 91st Grenadier Regiment of the German Army between 1943 and March 5, 1945, and from then until April 29, 1945 as a private in the Waffen SS, the combat arm of the SS.

Reger reportedly told an agent of the U.S. Army Counter Intelligence Corps in 1952 that he received the blood-typing tattoo given by the SS. These tattoos were generally placed under the arm.

In a complaint filed Monday in federal court in Trenton, N.J., the Justice Department alleged that Reger was an SS Death's Head guard at Auschwitz-Birkenau, overseeing the "confinement, torture, forced labor and execution of thousands of prisoners" and their transfer between camps.

Reger would not speak to the press or reveal the name of his lawyer, who reportedly advised him to remain silent. A woman who answered his phone later said he was not home.

Neal Sher, director of the Office of Special Investigations of the Justice Department, said Reger had been "wrongly naturalized." He said that Reger had been identified by comparing archives from foreign nations with immigration records.

ARAB STUDENT KILLED IN GAZA UNREST
By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Dec. 9 (JTA) -- Israel Defense Force soldiers killed a 17-year-old Arab high school student and wounded at least 10 others, one seriously, after their vehicle came under a hail of fire-bombs at the Jebaliya refugee camp in the northern Gaza Strip Wednesday.

The gasoline bombs, thrown from the yard of the Falujja school, exploded, but caused no damage to the vehicle. A curfew was imposed on the refugee camp.

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BAD WEATHER IN ETHIOPIA MAY MEAN REDOUBLING OF RELIEF EFFORTS
By Andrew Silow Carroll

NEW YORK, Dec. 9 (JTA) -- When Aryeh Cooperstock last visited Ethiopia's northern Gondar region, just this past September, he found a people slowly and steadily recovering from the despairing effects of the famine that still ravaged the country in 1985. Crops were growing as tall as his head, and as many as 60,000 Ethiopians were benefitting from American contributions of oxen, seeds, fertilizers, pesticides, and farm implements.

But when Cooperstock returns to Gondar next week, he is fearful of what he might find. This time parts of the region have seen too much rain, and while other regions of Ethiopia face a drought as severe as 1984's, Cooperstock worries that much of the recovery he has encouraged, as the director of the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee's International Development Fund, will literally be washed away.

JDC's aid to Gondar, where the majority of Ethiopia's 20,000 Jews live, is the latest and most vivid example of that Jewish organization's low-profile effort to extend help where it is needed most.

"As Jews, we have an ethical imperative to help others," said Cooperstock, explaining the raison d'etre of JDC's programs in more than 70 countries. "Of course, we go where Jews are, in hopes of improving the image and status of Jews living there."

Using that approach, the "Joint" (as JDC is called for short) is active in Kenya, where Israeli experts under its sponsorship work on a goat-raising project with Kenyan farmers; in Morocco, where "Project Carolyn" provides dental care for children in impoverished areas; and in El Salvador, where, together with the tiny Jewish community there, the JDC rebuilt a kindergarten in one of the poorest neighborhoods.

But the JDC's most dramatic, and possibly understated, efforts in recent years have taken place in Gondar. There, Jews left behind after 1984's Operation Moses live virtually indistinguishably from their non-Jewish neighbors, living in one-room mud "tukuls" and tending small plots of land.

New Famine Expected

As a result, they face what at least one organization, the American Association for Ethiopian Jews, is calling a repetition of the 1984-85 famine, when 3,000 Jews were included among the approximately one million Ethiopians who died of starvation and disease (out of a total Ethiopian population of 45 million).

According to a spokesman for the United States Agency for International Development (AID), the United States has already this year provided 142,000 tons of food and $56.6 million in aid.

As in other countries, the aid JDC is providing to Ethiopia must be non-sectarian -- the Joint is allowed to work with Jews, but not only with Jews, Cooperstock said.

"We never didn't help non-Jews," he said. On the other hand, while JDC never hides its Jewishness, "we don't flaunt it either," he added.

At the time of the 1983 famine, JDC channeled to starving Ethiopians more than $4 million in cash, food, medicine and clothing donated by the American Jewish community.

As the famine subsided, the JDC returned to the long-term development programs it had begun as early as 1983. They include a medical clinic in the village of Tedda and the training there of traditional birth attendants, a recently-inaugurated clinic in Gondar City, improvements in the region's water supply and a ceramics project in the Waleka area.

According to Cooperstock, Ethiopians import even the tiny cups they use for drinking coffee, and the ceramics project is exploring ways of manufacturing and marketing pottery and building materials using Ethiopia's indigenous clay deposits.

The Joint's agricultural project, successful up until this year's unfortunate weather, operates with the assistance of $1.3 million in grants from United States AID and an additional $150,000 from USA for Africa's Live-Aid campaign.

Limits On Use Of Funds

The bulk of JDC's $55 million budget comes from United Jewish Appeal funds earmarked for "international concerns." But because U.S. law limits American funding in "unfriendly" Marxist states like Ethiopia to "recovery" projects only, the JDC has been turning to Jewish communities in Denmark, Sweden and Canada for assistance in its development projects.

"We're asking the Swedes and others to go to their big international development agencies and ask them to make funds available," said Cooperstock. "The Danes approached their development officials and they were delighted to honor a Jewish request."

The JDC's International Development Fund is not the only American Jewish relief organization providing aid to developing countries. For instance, the Boston-based American Jewish World Service, founded in 1985, is meeting this week with international disaster specialists to discuss impending food shortages in Ethiopia.

According to the group's president, Laurence Simon, the World Service has also been planning a response to direct requests from independent relief committees in the war-torn Ethiopian provinces of Tigre and Eritrea. They hope to apply the advanced Israeli grain storage techniques that they have introduced in Sri Lanka, Togo and the Philippines.

Cooperstock acknowledges the work of the AJWS. "There's room for two flowers in the garden," he said.

Still, Cooperstock is proud of the JDC's standing in the international community. "The Ethiopian government has said we are an example of how an effective NGO (non-governmental organization) should work," he said.

Cooperstock's return to Africa next week will be undertaken with the Interfaith Hunger Appeal, a coalition that includes Catholic, Lutheran and other relief organizations.

He worries that the public will not respond to the current famine as it did in 1984, and he hopes publicity surrounding the interfaith mission will "raise the level of public awareness about the impact of hunger."

"This time around the Ethiopian government has acknowledged and asked for assistance," said Cooperstock. "I'm just afraid people will suffer from 'donor fatigue.' People won't respond because it happened before.

"But the effects of this famine will be the same. Starvation, unrest, refugees. We want to show not just what hunger is, but what hunger causes."

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BEHIND THE HEADLINES:
AS GAON GOES, SO GOES THE WORLD SEPHARDI FEDERATION
By Andrew Muchin

JERUSALEM, Dec. 9 (JTA) -- The 60-year-old World Sephardi Federation is undergoing a potentially fundamental transformation -- carefully crafted by its president and organizational DNA of the last 16 years, Nessim Gaon of Geneva.

Federation leaders, including Gaon, recruited more than 200 local Sephardi leaders from throughout the Jewish diaspora this summer to serve on the federation's newly created board of governors, which was Gaon's idea.

The obvious effect was to broaden the financial and power base of the federation, as the leaders, from 16 countries, each pledged $15,000 over the next three years, or $3.3 million.

Although the federation's decision-making bodies now represent a wider geography of views, whether the federation will become any more democratic in its pursuits on behalf of Jews of Mediterranean origin is still in question. So, too, is the speed with which it can expand his programming, an avowed priority.

The federation did not even recognize the board of governors as an official policy-making body until Dec. 2, the last of three days of the federation's World Sephardi Congress held here.

By then, the congress had no time to consider the other priorities that Gaon and other leaders had expressed throughout the congress:

* To foster a general resurgence of pride and unity among the world's 2.5 million Sephardim.

* To improve and increase Sephardi education to prevent assimilation in the diaspora.

* To resuscitate their traditions in Israel, including Orthodox but moderate religious practices, and reclaim their yeshivas from the Ashkenazi religious authorities.

* To increase educational and developmental assistance to Israel's 1.2 million Sephardim, a slight majority of Israel's Jewish population, but an overwhelming majority of the Jewish poor.

* To utilize their origin in Arab lands to the advantage of Israel by opening channels of dialogue with Arab states.

The congress left those issues to the presidium, the top policy-making body, which presumably will approve them. That procedure was Gaon's idea.

Revival Began In 1971

It was also Gaon, a 64-year-old Sudanese-born businessman and international Jewish leader, who revived the moribund federation in 1971. He has served as president of the world body ever since. His ideas and activity have spurred three recent major accomplishments.

He won approval in 1978, from then-Premier Menachem Begin, for Project Renewal, the diaspora-Israeli cooperative rebuilding of Israel's impoverished development towns, which mainly comprise Sephardim.

Under his leadership, the world federation has introduced, with the Jewish Agency, a scholarship program that has sent 7,000 underprivileged students to Israeli universities, and a bar mitzvah program that has provided the education, ceremony and gifts to 5,000 underprivileged boys.

The recruitment of the board of governors, undertaken in cooperation with Alberto Nasser of Rio de Janeiro and Stephen and Liliane Shalom of New York, transported Gaon throughout the Americas in August. Both he and Nasser said the local leaders told them they had awaited for years the opportunity to move from their local posts into the world Jewish scene.

Why now? Until a few years ago, it was impossible to consider such a step or talk of a Sephardi resurgence, Gaon explained during an interview last week in his suite at the Laromme Hotel here, the site of the congress.

The Sephardim in Israel faced major problems even at the outset of the 1980s -- institutionalized poverty, lack of educational opportunity, a dissolving family structure. "All this needed most of our time and attention," he said, leaving few resources for other efforts.

But, the impeccably dressed, multilingual man added, "The situation greatly improved and is continually improving."

In this new atmosphere, Gaon has urged the federation to centralize its programming in Israel with the establishment of Sephardi House, a combination Sephardi world community center and administrative office.

WZO Asked To Hand Over Department

Gaon said ideally the house would include the Sephardi Communities Department of the World Zionist Organization, with its $650,000 budget. He complained that half the budget is earmarked for administrative and overhead expenses. He said the federation would ask WZO, which is considering restructuring anyway, to hand over the department.

Gaon, who is president of the Israel Bonds organization in Switzerland, proposes a parallel program in which the development towns would offer local bonds, backed by the national government or the Jewish Agency, in order to raise from $200 million to $400 million to provide opportunities for employment.

The vast socioeconomic differences among Sephardim were reflected in the makeup of this year's congress. Some of the diaspora Sephardim had made fortunes in one or two generations, while the poverty of the Israeli Sephardim was a major focus of the proceedings. Did the Sephardim who went to the diaspora, Gaon was asked, make the better decision?

Israel always was the dream of most Sephardim, he replied, but many, including him in 1949, chose other locales. Israel confiscated their fortunes at the border, he explained, leaving them impoverished, and then left them to languish in development towns. That was all he would say.

Another diaspora-Israeli difference nearly ruptured the federation, but instead demonstrated Gaon's personal suasion. The Israelis heatedly opposed Gaon's approved organizational restructuring plan, because it lowered Israeli representation on the federation presidium from one-half to less than one-third.

The top leaders from both sides met in Gaon's suite until the wee hours of last Wednesday morning, agreeing to give the Israelis 14 of 35 seats on an expanded presidium.

Superseding parliamentary procedure, Gaon then asked the congress to accept the new plan at its Wednesday plenary. It did, of course. Not that his every whim becomes federation policy. But when opposition arose, it was his charm and sometimes calculated forcefulness that overcame.

The federation is bigger now, and essentially new. Whether or not it succeeds in its goals, Gaon most likely will be the guiding force.

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REAGAN, MEMBERS OF CONGRESS VOICE SUPPORT FOR SOVIET JEWS

By Howard Rosenberg

WASHINGTON, Dec. 3 (JTA) -- President Reagan declared Thursday that Soviet citizens who have been denied exit visas will be the "unseen guests" at his summit meeting next week with Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev.

"I know that sitting next to me will be unseen guests -- men and women whose only hope is that they are not forgotten here in the West," Reagan said. He said they included Soviet Jews and other ethnic groups "who have applied to emigrate (and) have endured incredible hardships as a result."

Reagan made his comments before the National Conference on Soviet Jewry, the Union of Councils for Soviet Jews and other human rights groups at the White House for a pre-summit warmup. He later met with five divided spouses.

He told a joke about a Soviet dissident who complained that his sentence in a Siberian prison was too light. The dissident told the judge that "if America is so bad, why don't you send me there."

Reagan noted that human rights issues will be treated "on a par" with arms control and other issues at the summit. He recalled that the Soviets used to refuse to discuss human rights with U.S. officials, claiming that it was an internal matter.

Now, such topics are "accepted as integral components of our bilateral discussions," the president said.

The president spoke a day after members of Congress spoke out strongly against Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev's comment that American support for emigration from the USSR is an attempt to create a "brain drain."

Rep. John Porter (R-Ill.) termed as "nonsense" the Gorbachev claim made during an interview on NBC-TV Monday night.

Porter was among some 20 members of the House and Senate who spoke at the annual congressional fast and vigil for Soviet Jewry on the steps of the Capitol. He asserted that "the opening (glasnost) that started six or seven or eight months ago is closing down," culminating with Gorbachev's dismissal of a high party official who said Soviet reforms were moving too slowly.

Close to 200 lawmakers either fasted, participated in the vigil or spoke this week on the House and Senate floors in support of Soviet Jewry, said Rep. Robert Mrazek (D-N.Y). The members of Congress at the vigil were joined by Soviet Jews seeking reunification with immediate family left behind.

Rep. James Scheuer (D-N.Y.) said he found it "depressing" that Gorbachev would imply that many Soviet Jews did not really want to leave and that they were being organized by the United States to create a brain drain.

Scheuer also termed as "baloney" the "state secrets" basis reiterated by Gorbachev in his NBC interview. He called it "further evidence of the unrelenting rigidity of the Soviet Union."

Sen. Christopher Bond (R-Mo.) said "we think we have leaks in this country. But to have 400,000 people wanting to get out (of the Soviet Union) -- all of whom have classified information -- is a bit unbelievable."

On Tuesday, Sen. Pete Wilson (R-Calif.) sponsored a news conference with five refusenik family members that focused on the need for parents of Soviet emigrants who have not yet obtained visas to receive medical treatment abroad. Anna Charny plead for the release of her father, Benjamin, who has cancer.

Galina Khatutskay spoke about her father, Yuri, who may have a brain tumor or aneurysm, and Irina Dashevsky cited her father, Vladimir, who is suffering from heart disease.

SEVERAL HIGH-PROFILE REFUSENIKS RECEIVE PERMISSION TO EMIGRATE

By Susan Birnbaum

NEW YORK, Dec. 3 (JTA) -- On Wednesday, Feliks Abramovich, son of the Soviet Union's longest-waiting refusenik, Pavel Abramovich, told a news conference at Women's American ORT here, "I don't know if I'll ever see my parents again."

Thursday morning, a little after 5:00, Feliks received a phone call from the National Conference on Soviet Jewry: His parents had received word that they would be getting permission to emigrate.

Abramovich and several long-waiting refuseniks received phone calls indicating they would be getting permission to leave the Soviet Union. Among the others were Aleksander, Rosa and Anna Ioffe, and the extended Bialy family: Leonid Bialy; his wife, Judith Ratner Bialy; their son, Misha; Misha's wife, Miriam; Miriam's parents, Viktor and Maya Fulmakht; and another daughter of the Fulmakhts, 12-year-old Rena.

The way was also cleared Thursday for the emigration of the family of Aleksander Kholmiansky, whose wife, Anna, received a waiver of financial obligation from her father only last month.

Although the Moscow OVIR emigration office has not yet officially confirmed the permissions, Soviet authorities in Moscow have already informed visiting Australian Prime Minister Bob Hawke that Abramovich and Ioffe are being permitted to emigrate.

Hawke, who met with Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev as well as the refuseniks during his Moscow visit, informed the families they would be allowed to leave before the end of the year. Hawke made the announcement publicly when he arrived in Tokyo later in the day.

Abramovich and Ioffe were recently told by OVIR that their security classifications would bar them from receiving exit visas for an indeterminate number of years. The NCSJ informed the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that the refuseniks were going to the OVIR office to formalize their permissions.

Ioffe's son, Dimitry, was permitted to immigrate to Israel earlier this year after Aleksander Ioffe staged a hunger strike and drew widespread media attention.

Aleksander Ioffe was a professor of mathematics who left his job in order to avoid visa

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refusal because of exposure to classified documents. He is internationally prominent in the field of calculus variations and control theories. Rosa Ioffe is a physicist, and a member of the Women's Liberation Group in Moscow.

Aleksander Ioffe was an active participant in the scientific seminars that Viktor Brailovsky held in Moscow. Brailovsky received permission to emigrate in September and is now in Israel. His wife, Irina, and daughter, Dahlia, were present at the same news conference where Feliks Abramovich spoke Wednesday about the issue of state secrets. Dahlia will be celebrating her bat mitzvah Saturday with her American "twin," Jill Goldsmith.

Pavel Abramovich, 48, a radio electronics engineer, was first refused permission to emigrate in 1971 on grounds of "state secrecy." He is the author of two journals of articles on the issue of "state secrets."

Abramovich organized a seminar on "secrecy" last month that attracted over 100 refuseniks and international journalists. His son, Feliks, received permission to emigrate recently and is now living in Tel Aviv, with plans to enter the Haifa Technion in March.

On Tuesday, Soviet emigres testified at a hearing of Senators for Soviet Jewry about the three-generation Bialy family, who a week and a half ago had received their 14th refusal.

The speakers -- Leon Charny and his niece Anna Charny Blank, brother and daughter of ailing refusenik Benjamin Charny, and Vladimir Bravve, widower of cancer victim Rimma Bravve-- purposely chose the Bialy family to focus on because of the juxtaposition of the Bialys' most recent refusal and next week's summit meeting between Gorbachev and President Reagan.

Commenting on the wave of permissions, an NCSJ spokesperson noted that "While welcome, such individual gestures, even to the Australian prime minister, do not satisfy the need for a radical improvement in emigration procedures. This continuing violation of the rights of Soviet Jews is one of the primary reasons why we are demonstrating in Washington, D.C. on Summit Sunday, Dec. 6."

LABOR PARTY SELECTS DINITZ TO RUN FOR TOP WZO-JEWISH AGENCY POST

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Dec. 3 (JTA) -- Simcha Dinitz was nominated by a narrow margin Thursday night to be the Labor Party's candidate for the office of chairman of the World Zionist Organization and Jewish Agency Executive.

It is the highest of several posts to be elected at the World Zionist Congress, which opens in Jerusalem Sunday.

The nomination, by the party's central committee, came two days after diaspora philanthropists on the Jewish Agency Board of Governors gave Dinitz their unanimous endorsement. Only 1,077 of the central committee's 1,250 members cast ballots. Dinitz won the nomination by a vote of 552-525, a plurality of 27 votes.

This despite the fact that his only challenger, Nissim Zvilli, head of the WZO's settlement department, was considered the weakest candidate. A more formidable opponent, former Israel Defense Force Chief of Staff Gen. Mordechai Gur, dropped out of the race Wednesday, furious over the nod given Dinitz by the overseas philanthropists.

The diaspora leaders' decision was announced in a letter sent Tuesday by Mendel Kaplan, chairman of the Board of Governors, to Foreign Minister Shimon Peres, leader of the Labor Party. Kaplan urged Peres to "take this into account in order to avoid the indignities of the recent past."

Follows Rejection Of Lewinsky

He was apparently referring to the bitter reaction in the Labor Party and the Labor Zionist movement over the diaspora philanthropists' unanimous rejection in October of Akiva Lewinsky, the man whom Labor had already chosen as its candidate for the WZO-Jewish Agency chairmanship. Lewinsky withdrew last week amid protests against the "interference" of the overseas Jewish leaders.

Dinitz, 58, a Labor member of the Knesset, served as Israel's ambassador to the United States from 1973-78 and was a close confidant and political adviser to the late Premier Golda Meir. He is well known and well liked by the American Jewish community.

Yitzhak Modai, head of Likud's Liberal Party wing, had predicted earlier that Likud's choice for the WZO-Jewish Agency chairmanship, Minister of Science and Technology Gideon Patt, would have an easy win over Zvilli, were he to be nominated by Labor, but a hard fight against Dinitz.

Now, in light of Dinitz's victory, the Likud leadership may decide at its meeting Friday to drop Patt, a Likud-Liberal, in favor of former Defense Minister Moshe Arens, a tough-talking veteran of the party's Herut wing. Arens also served as Israel's ambassador to Washington from 1982-83, before he became defense minister, and was well liked by American Jews.

IDF SAYS COURT-MARTIALS POSSIBLE IN AFTERMATH OF HANG-GLIDER ATTACK

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Dec. 3 (JTA) -- Disciplinary action, including possible court-martial proceedings, may be taken against Israel Defense Force personnel for dereliction of duty when a lone terrorist infiltrated Israel by hang-glider on the night of Nov. 25. The attack killed six IDF soldiers and wounded seven at a military base in upper Galilee.

IDF Chief of Staff Gen. Dan Shomron spoke of the possible disciplinary action Wednesday night upon the completion of a series of inquiries into the incident by the IDF. The investigation apparently found evidence of negligence on the part of the chief operations officer at the camp and a sentry who allegedly deserted his post.

Shomron and other senior IDF officers met with Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin Thursday to brief him on the results of the investigation. Shomron reportedly decided to transfer the commander of the Nahal brigade to which the unit that came under attack belonged.

Nahal is the Hebrew acronym for "Pioneer Fighting Youth," soldiers who combine agricultural work with military training. Some members have already complained that publicity surrounding the incident has unjustly tarnished Nahal's reputation.

But the ability of a single terrorist to inflict serious casualties on a heavily armed IDF unit has severely shaken Israelis' confidence in the IDF's defense capabilities. The public and the military are all-the-more astonished because the unit had

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at least 20 to 30 minutes' advance warning of a terrorist infiltration by air.

Sentry Left Post

The IDF inquiries reportedly revealed that the operations officer -- the senior officer at the camp -- failed to respond adequately to the alert and did not take proper security measures. The sentry raised no alarm when the terrorist approached the camp and, instead of confronting him, left his post, the IDF found.

The soldiers at the base did not respond to the early alert. In fact, only one soldier actually opened fire on the intruder -- and killed him-- after he himself was wounded in the leg.

All of these factors have resulted in severe criticism, both inside the IDF and among the civilian population. The military high command is pondering the lessons learned from the incident.

Meir Zorea, a former IDF general and Defense Ministry ombudsman, told Voice of Israel radio Thursday that the fault lies in the failure to instill a proper sense of discipline in all ranks.

Zorea said that while the army displayed a high level of discipline in combat, it did not maintain the same standards in its daily routine. According to Zorea, several generations of IDF officers "have not been brought up in the right way" and failed to observe the proper disciplinary norms.

The incident was a blow to the image of Nahal, which has long been regarded as one of the IDF's superior fighting units. Most of its soldiers come from kibbutzim and other agricultural settlements.

One group of Nahal trainees, not yet incorporated into the army, wrote this week to Premier Yitzhak Shamir and Defense Minister Rabin complaining about the "lynch atmosphere directed at the Nahal corps."

ISRAEL WON'T ASK FOR EXTRADITION OF TERRORIST WHO PLOTTED LOD MASSACRE
By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Dec. 3 (JTA) -- Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir said Thursday that Israel was not contemplating asking Japan for the extradition of Osamu Maruoka, reportedly the No. 2 man in the Japanese Red Army who helped plot the massacre at Lod Airport in 1972.

Japanese police arrested the 37-year-old Maruoka Nov. 21 as he entered Japan from Hong Kong. Twenty-seven people were killed in the bloodbath at the Israeli airport, now named Ben-Gurion International Airport.

Japanese authorities, who waited several days before announcing Maruoka's apprehension, did not explain how they had tracked and captured the terrorist leader. They said, however, that when caught he had about $37,000 on him and a passport in the name of someone living in Okinawa. They believe Maruoka may have been planning an attack on the Seoul Olympics to be held next September.

The Israel airport attack was perpetrated by three terrorists, one of whom died in the shoot-out with Israeli police. The third, Kozo Okamoto, who was released by Israel in a 1985 prisoner exchange involving 1,150 terrorists incarcerated in Israel, went to Libya. Okamoto had been sentenced to multiple life terms for his part in the massacre.

The Japanese Red Army surfaced in the 1960s, supporting Palestinian groups. Since the Lod massacre, it has mounted several attacks, including the hijacking of a Japan Air Lines flight from Amsterdam to Tokyo in 1973, a 1975 attack on the Japanese Embassy in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, and another hijacking of a Japan Air Lines plane from Bombay to Dhaka, Bangladesh, in 1977.

The current Red Army leader is believed to be a woman, Fusako Shigenobu, 42, thought to be living in Lebanon's Bekaa Valley. Japanese police said about 40 members of the terrorist organization remain active, many in the Middle East.

DEPORTATION ORDERED FOR WEST BANKER, BUT NOT CARRIED OUT FOR MUBARAK AWAD
By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Dec. 3 (JTA) -- A deportation order was issued Wednesday against Jamal Shatti Hindi, a resident of the Jenin refugee camp in the West Bank, who served a four-year prison term for planting bombs and for membership in a terrorist organization.

The order was issued by Brig. Gen. Amram Mitzna, commander of the Israel Defense Force's central sector. According to security sources, Hindi was a major activist for Al Fatah, the terrorist wing of the Palestine Liberation Organization, at Najah University in Nablus.

He may appeal against the deportation to a military appeals board and, if overruled, can take his plea to Israel's Supreme Court. In most previous cases, appellants have either lost their cases or dropped their appeals before a decision was handed down.

The authorities, meanwhile, have delayed enforcement of a deportation order issued last month against Mubarak Awad, an advocate of non-violent resistance to Israel's presence in the administered territories.

Awad, a Jerusalem-born Palestinian who is a naturalized American citizen, was to have been expelled from the country on Nov. 20. But the U.S. State Department intervened on his behalf.

The matter is reportedly in the hands of Premier Yitzhak Shamir, who must make the final decision. The Foreign Ministry has asked that Awad's deportation be delayed.

VISITING GREEK FOREIGN MINISTER PREDICTS FULL RELATIONS WITH ISRAEL
By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Dec. 3 (JTA) -- The establishment of full diplomatic relations between Greece and Israel is expected in the next few months, as a result of the three-day visit here by Greek Foreign Minister Karolos Papoulias, which ended Thursday.

That impression was reinforced by Papoulias at his meetings with Premier Yitzhak Shamir and Foreign Minister Shimon Peres. He also told Palestinian leaders from the West Bank Thursday that ties would be improved between Greece and Israel, though not at the expense of traditional Greek support of the Palestinian cause, the leaders who met with him said.

Papoulias is the first senior member of the Greek Cabinet to come to Israel. He arrived Monday at the invitation of Peres. He reportedly told Shamir at their private meeting Tuesday that the time has come for Greece to extend de jure recognition to Israel and the matter will be discussed by his government shortly.

At present, Israel enjoys only de facto recognition by Greece.

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WORLD SEPHARDI FEDERATION ADOPTS NEW STRUCTURE AND NEW DIRECTIONS

By Andrew Muchin

JERUSALEM, Dec. 3 (JTA) -- Much of the discussion at a three-day gathering of the World Sephardi Federation here this week focused on a controversial plan to restructure the hierarchy of the international organization.

The plan nearly prompted a walkout by the Israeli delegation to the federation's third international congress. But that was averted in the wee hours of Wednesday morning, when the federation agreed to amend the reorganization plan to include more Israeli representation in the policymaking echelons of the world organization.

World Sephardi Federation President Nessim Gaon of Geneva considers the restructuring to be a cornerstone of the congress, held Nov. 30 to Dec. 2 at the Laromme Hotel here. But it appears far more public enthusiasm was generated by an offer Gaon made at the official opening of the congress Monday night.

Speaking to 400 delegates from 18 countries, Gaon declared that the federation is prepared to send an Arabic-speaking delegation to Amman, Jordan; Rabat, Morocco; Riyadh, Saudi Arabia; or anywhere else to seek common understanding as the basis for diplomatic negotiations between Israel and the Arab world.

Understanding Of Arab Cultures

In his view, the common language, the experience of living among Arabs and the understanding that Sephardim have of Arab cultures can help not only in the eventual peace negotiations, but also in the vital talk of building acceptance of Israel.

He added that the federation has no desire to circumvent Israeli government, but he noted, too, that no one has made a serious effort to make peace since the late Egyptian President Anwar Sadat came here, almost exactly 10 years ago, in 1977.

On Wednesday night, Foreign Minister Shimon Peres responded favorably to Gaon's offer to utilize delegations of Jews of Mideast origin to open channels of dialogue with Israel's Arab neighbors. The Sephardim can serve as a gesher (bridge) and as a shofar for peace, Peres told the federation delegates.

His reaction, coming at the closing of the congress, was in marked contrast to that of Premier Yitzhak Shamir, who said nothing of the idea during his remarks to the congress Monday night, which immediately followed Gaon's opening speech. In fact, a federation leader seated near Shamir during Gaon's speech said the premier was stewing.

Mention Of London Meeting

In his remarks, delivered in rhythmic English, Peres expressed hope for peace, pointing to three windows of opportunity created by an agreement reached with Jordan's King Hussein in London earlier this year, the recent Arab summit meeting in Amman and the two superpowers' declared intention to focus on regional issues during the summit meetings next week between President Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev.

It was the foreign minister's first public acknowledgement of his secret meeting in London with Hussein. That is the meeting at which the two leaders reportedly agreed to seek an international peace conference that would lead to direct negotiations between Israel and its Arab neighbors.

Shamir has consistently opposed the idea of Israeli participation in an international conference, fearing that Israel would be outnumbered in such a forum and forced to make compromises against its best interests.

Praise For Sephardi Advances

The prime minister chose to focus on other issues in his speech to the Sephardi delegates Monday night. He praised the Sephardim for their socioeconomic and political advances in Israel.

Shamir also praised Jewish unity as a guarantor of Israeli success and noted, on the other hand, that Arab unity, such as that displayed at the Arab summit meeting in Amman last month, spelled trouble for Israel.

Gaon expressed concern about Jewish disunity at a news conference preceding the congress at Ben-Gurion airport Sunday night. He said the federation would take strong action to prevent Sephardic children from falling prey to religious fanaticism.

Non-Sephardic, ultra-Orthodox yeshivas in Israel, he and other leaders charged, have been luring impoverished Sephardic boys with promises of education, room and board, and in effect are turning them against their families.

Sephardim are religiously observant, yet tolerant, making them an easy mark for extremists, Gaon said. Of the world's estimated 13 million Jews, about 3 million are Sephardim, and about half of them live in Israel.

Nevertheless, he lamented, Sephardic culture has waned in Israel in the last generation because the recent Sephardic immigrants came without their teachers. They could not have continuity or culture.

New Directions

Renewal of pride in Sephardic culture was one of several new directions urged by Gaon and other leaders during the congress. Others were increased assistance to Sephardim in Israel, promotion of religious moderation and improved Sephardic education in the diaspora.

The congress ratified only one major resolution: the reconstitution of the federation presidium, the top policy-making board, to include more diaspora members and fewer Israelis -- but that only after a protracted battle. The Israeli Sephardic Federation had threatened to pull out of the world body if Israeli representation on the reconstituted presidium was not increased from 10 of 31 seats. They finally got 14 of 35 seats.

At Gaon's suggestion, the congress agreed to allow the presidium to take action Thursday on the other resolutions.

These included the opening and eventual construction of Sephardi House here, which will coordinate federation programming in Israel; expansion of current scholarship and bar mitzvah programs; and creation of a council of mayors from Israel's development towns, which are heavily Sephardi.

On Tuesday, the world federation announced the establishment of scholarship funds in the names of former Premier Menachem Begin and the late Pinchas Sapir, former Israeli finance minister.

Begin was premier in 1978, when Project Renewal, the diaspora-Israel effort to improve Israel's development towns, was established. Sapir was honored for his compassionate partnership.

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THREE KILLED, SEVEN WOUNDED IN GAZA, AS UNREST SPREADS TO JERUSALEM

By Gil Sedan and David Landau

JERUSALEM, Dec. 15 (JTA) -- Three Palestinian demonstrators were killed and at least seven were wounded Tuesday in a series of clashes with Israel Defense Force troops in the Gaza Strip. Two IDF soldiers were slightly wounded.

A Palestinian shot by the IDF in a skirmish Monday, died of his wounds in a hospital Tuesday evening. His death brought to nine the number of Palestinians killed in clashes with security forces since violence escalated in the Gaza Strip a week ago. Palestinian sources said the number of wounded was much higher than reported by the IDF.

Sporadic incidents continued in the Gaza Strip Tuesday night. The most serious occurred during the day. At one point, troops entered the compound of Shifta Hospital in Gaza, where Palestinian wounded are taken, to confront dozens of stone-throwing demonstrators. According to an eyewitness report in the Jerusalem Post, the soldiers opened fire, killing one demonstrator.

Another Palestinian was fatally shot after he threw a gasoline bomb at soldiers. The circumstances of the third fatality were not immediately known.

Unrest spread from the administered territories to East Jerusalem Tuesday. Police reported tire-burnings and demonstrations in various parts of East Jerusalem, including the Old City. In some cases, demonstrators were dispersed with tear gas. Most Arab shops remained closed.

Sharon Move Protested

The disturbances and merchants' strike in East Jerusalem were apparently organized to protest the move by Herut hard-liner Ariel Sharon into his new home in the Old City's Moslem quarter.

He held a housewarming and Chanukah party there Tuesday night, attended by Premier Yitzhak Shamir and several dozen other guests, including leading political figures. About 300 armed police stood guard outside.

Sharon, who is minister of commerce and industry and a former defense minister, explained that his new flat, in a building owned by Jews in 1948, was intended to spur a renewal of Jewish residence in the Moslem quarter that began 100 years ago.

But many Israelis consider it a provocation. According to Jerusalem Mayor Teddy Kollek, it is likely to heighten tensions in the city. Kollek pointedly declined Sharon's invitation to his Chanukah party. Sharon had told reporters last week that he hoped the mayor would light the first candle.

While the festivities were going on, groups of Israelis demonstrated for and against Sharon at the Damascus Gate, several hundred yards from his new home. Sharon's supporters were members of Rabbi Meir Kahane's extremist Kach party. His critics were from the Peace Now movement. No incidents were reported.

But a delegation from the dovish Citizens' Rights Movement met with Arab neighbors of Sharon and expressed solidarity with them.

The CRM contingent was joined by a member of the Herut Central Committee, Moshe Amirav, who called Sharon's move a "provocation." He said he wanted the Herut minister to know that many members of his party do not agree with him. It was disclosed several weeks ago that Amirav had met for talks with certain pro-Palestine Liberation Organization personalities from the West Bank.

Meanwhile, the Prime Minister's Office denied Tuesday that Shamir was considering closing the administered territories to the news media covering the disturbances. Shamir's aide, Avi Pazner, said there are "no operative plans" to close the territories or ban foreign correspondents.

He issued the denial after Israel Radio reported that the idea of a press ban arose at separate meetings Shamir held Tuesday with Chief of Staff Gen. Dan Shomron and a delegation of National Religious Party leaders.

Shamir is acting defense minister in the absence of Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin, who is in the United States.

SECURITY COUNCIL DEBATES UNREST, BUT HAS NOT YET TAKEN ACTION

By Yitzhak Rabi

UNITED NATIONS, Dec. 15 (JTA) -- The Security Council was scheduled to hold its third meeting Tuesday night in a continuing debate over the escalating violence in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

The 15-member body first met on the subject last Friday. It resumed the discussions Monday night, hearing mainly from Arab representatives who demanded that Israel be condemned.

According to sources here, there is still no draft resolution for the council to act on, and it is not certain whether the debate will end with a resolution or with a statement of concern from the president of the council over the recent events in the Israeli-administered territories.

This month's president of the Security Council is Aleksandr Belonogov of the Soviet Union.

Diplomats here said they do not know how the United States would vote on a resolution critical of Israel, even a toned-down resolution of censure.

Arabs Denounce Israel

But the Arab speakers Monday night denounced Israel without exception. Syria's ambassador to the United Nations, Athi Al-Masri, called on the Security Council to impose sanctions against Israel and compel it to withdraw from all of the territories it has administered since 1967, in compliance with past U.N. resolutions.

The Egyptian ambassador, Abdel Halim Badawi, blamed the stalled Middle East peace process for the violence in the territories, for which he held Israel responsible. He charged that "certain forces" in Israel have decided on a policy of "terrorizing" the inhabitants of the territories.

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Ambassador Abdullah Salah of Jordan called on the Security Council to denounce Israel's continued occupation of the West Bank and Gaza Strip and to request Israel to cease its attacks on students. Salah also proposed that the Security Council call on Israel to accept the convening of an international conference for Middle East peace.

At last Friday's meeting, Israel's ambassador to the United Nations, Benjamin Netanyahu, accused the Palestine Liberation Organization of inciting the unrest in the territories. He said there has been an increase in violence and "many, many incidents of terror" that were not reported, because they were interdicted.

According to Netanyahu, the PLO instigated the violence because it opposes any improvement of the situation that might lead to a political settlement in the area.

It was reported here, meanwhile, that the commissioner general of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestinian Refugees (UNRWA), Giorgio Giacomelli, met Monday with Gideon Yarden, the Israeli charge d'affaires in Vienna, where UNRWA is headquartered.

The U.N. official expressed concern over the current tensions in the territories, where he said UNRWA schools and other services have been disrupted. The meeting was held to discuss Giacomelli's visit to Jerusalem and the territories, which is to begin Wednesday.

OFFICIAL SAYS U.S. HAS COMPLAINED TO ISRAEL ABOUT POLICY IN TERRITORIES

By Howard Rosenberg

WASHINGTON, Dec. 15 (JTA) -- The Reagan administration has told Israel at the highest level that it opposes many of its actions on the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, a senior State Department official said Monday.

Richard Murphy, assistant secretary of state for Near Eastern and South Asian affairs, made the remark in testimony before the House Foreign Affairs subcommittee on Europe and the Middle East, which was holding its first hearing devoted exclusively to the territories since 1982.

Murphy said that in discussions with Israel, the State Department has voiced concern over the killing of nine unarmed Palestinians earlier this year. It has also criticized Israel's policy of "collective punishment," whereby Israel has closed Palestinian universities for a few months when protests or violence erupt.

The assistant secretary also said the United States has protested the demolition or sealing of 70 Palestinian homes and the "denial of due process" to 120 Palestinians placed by Israeli authorities in administrative detention.

Murphy said that harsh security measures by Israel "are sometimes inconsistent with recognized international standards." He cited a report by the Landau Commission, which found that Israel routinely abuses Palestinian prisoners, both physically and psychologically.

Murphy did praise Israel for recently finding five guards at a Gaza prison guilty of abusing inmates and for dismissing other guards who also abused prisoners.

No permanent peace can be achieved until Palestinians and Israelis sit down and negotiate the future of the territories, the State Department official Murphy said.

But in the interim, he called for improvements in the daily lives of Palestinians to reduce "the frustrations that are one cause of extremism and violence."

More than 130 Palestinians have been killed in the territories in the first ten months of 1987, double the 1986 figure, he said.

Murphy emphasized that while more Palestinians are becoming fundamentalist Moslems, it has not translated into greater political activism. He stressed that fundamentalism was not a significant factor in the recent cycles of violence.

He speculated that the increased violence this year was spurred to some degree by Palestinian bitterness on the 20th anniversary of the 1967 Six-Day War, when Israel assumed control of the territories.

Rep. Mel Levine (D-Calif.) asked Murphy why Arab countries are not doing more to absorb Palestinians from the administered territories.

Murphy told Levine that Arab countries want them to stay put in the territories because they are a political symbol representing "the injustice done to Palestinians as a result of the '48-'49 war."

He also said that most Palestinians "really want to stay" where they are.

He said that the recent killing of Palestinians and one Israeli in the territories "reminds us of the deep communal conflict and of the unresolved political status of the West Bank and Gaza."

HERZOG SAYS MOSLEM FUNDAMENTALISM IS BEHIND UNREST IN TERRITORIES

By Maurice Samuelson

LONDON, Dec. 15 (JTA) -- President Chaim Herzog of Israel charged here Tuesday that the wave of violence in the Gaza Strip is due to the spread of Moslem fundamentalism, financed by Saudi Arabia and other countries.

It is a comparatively new situation with strong overtones of the conflict between the Islamic Jihad (holy war) and the left-wing Arab nationalists, Herzog told a news conference on the sixth day of his week-long visit to Britain.

He maintained that in both the Gaza Strip and the West Bank, the current unrest is a series of isolated, mostly unconnected events reflecting an internecine struggle between rival Arab elements.

Herzog, a former Israel Defense Force chief of intelligence and one-time military governor of the West Bank, said the troubles there stem basically from the conflict between supporters of Jordan's King Hussein and supporters of the Palestine Liberation Organization.

He said the British news media were giving a simplistic view of events in the territories by failing to mention these distinctions and ignoring the fact that about 100,000 Arab workers from the territories commute to jobs in Israel every day.

Herzog declined to comment on the issue of an international conference for Middle East peace, which has divided Israel's coalition government. But he was hopeful there would be some movement toward peace in the region next year.

The Israeli chief of state, accompanied by his wife, Aura, came to Britain to inaugurate the Jewish community's festivities marking the 40th year of Israel's independence.

He and his wife were to have tea with Queen Elizabeth at Buckingham Palace Tuesday afternoon. They are to lunch with Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher at No. 10 Downing Street Wednesday before returning to Israel.

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SENATE ADOPTS PLAN TO REFINANCE ISRAEL'S OUTSTANDING DEBT TO U.S.

By Howard Rosenberg

WASHINGTON, Dec. 15 (JTA) -- The Senate approved a foreign debt refinancing plan Friday that could save Israel $2 billion over two decades. But it must first pass the House and be signed into law by President Reagan.

In the same measure, which was agreed to by voice vote, the Senate decided to provide Israel with $1.8 billion in military assistance in fiscal year 1988, and Egypt with $1.3 billion. The total U.S. foreign military assistance for 1988 was set at $4.2 billion under the plan.

The debt plan, approved Dec. 3 by the Senate Appropriations Committee, affects all foreign aid recipients who are trying to pay off high-interest loans. Israel currently has the highest outstanding debt in high-interest loans, roughly $5.45 billion.

The plan is aimed at easing the debt burden of major U.S. allies to avert possible default. The main beneficiaries, Israel, Egypt and Turkey, have borrowed billions to buy arms and are now struggling to pay off their debts. A few years ago, Israel received emergency economic aid from the United States.

For Israel, the $2 billion in savings would come by allowing private banks to refinance Israel's debt, which lies currently in high-interest loans. An additional $5 billion that Israel owes the United States would remain unaffected, since it already lies in low-interest loans.

The debt relief plan originated in the Senate Foreign Operations Subcommittee, where it was co-sponsored by Sen. Daniel Inouye (D-Hawaii), subcommittee chairman, and Sen. Robert Kasten (R-Wis.), the ranking Republican. In 1985, the two had unsuccessfully co-sponsored a plan to reduce the interest rate on Israel's loans to 5 percent.

James Bond, minority clerk for the subcommittee, expects a battle on the debt provision this week in the House-Senate conference committee. While the House has approved identical military assistance to Israel, the House did not vote on the debt provision.

Rep. David Obey (D-Wis.), chairman of the House Foreign Operations Subcommittee is said to oppose the debt reduction measure.

NAZI HUNTER BEATE KLARSFELD DEMANDS WALDHEIM RESIGN

VIENNA, Dec. 15 (JTA) -- Nazi-hunter Beate Klarsfeld affixed a poster to the front door of Kurt Waldheim's office Friday demanding that the Austrian president resign.

The poster displayed a photograph of Waldheim in his World War II German army uniform alongside one of Austrian Jews being forced to scrub the pavements after Austria became part of the Third Reich by the 1938 Anschluss.

The poster read: "No more liar-president with a war criminal file. Waldheim must resign." It was removed from the door by a policeman.

A plain-clothes officer took Klarsfeld's name, examined her passport and asked her to leave the premises. There was no further police action, the World Jewish Congress reported Tuesday.

Klarsfeld told reporters that she acted to draw attention to the fact that the United Nations war crimes archives contains a file on Waldheim, a former U.N. secretary general who concealed his wartime activities for 40 years. She said she also wanted to remind people that next year is the 50th anniversary of the Anschluss.

The WJCongress has accused Waldheim of a role in the deportation of Greek Jews and atrocities against civilians and partisan fighters while he was an intelligence officer in the German army in the Balkans during the war.

MOST FRENCH STILL SEE JEWS STEREOTYPICALLY, POLL FINDS

By Edwin Eytan

PARIS, Dec. 15 (JTA) -- A majority of the French population clings to stereotypical images of Jews, some of them bordering on anti-Semitism, according to a survey taken last month, but the overall feeling has become friendlier of late.

The results of the survey by Sofres, France's largest public opinion polling organization, were published Monday in the Jewish weekly Tribune Juive on the occasion of its 1,000th issue.

"The Jewish image is still linked to three terms: money, tradition and a cosmopolitan link to world Jewry," said Professor Emeric Deutsch, head of Sofres.

Deutsch reported at a news conference that 72 percent of the 1,000 persons questioned agreed that "Jews represent an international power as they help each other in overlapping frontiers." Jews were "linked to international capitalism" by 57 percent, and 48 percent thought Jews "tend to help each other to the detriment of other people."

While 91 percent described Jews as "very attached to their traditions" and 85 percent saw that as positive, 26 percent said that without Jews "France would be culturally poor," compared to 45 percent who disagreed and 29 percent with no opinion.

The poll found that most French people associate Jews with three traits -- "smart" in a slightly pejorative sense, 47 percent; "money-loving," 43 percent; and intelligent, 36 percent. Other traits scored lower: well educated and patriotic, 19 percent; and generous, 8 percent.

According to Deutsch, the poll showed a clear split between the major political parties in their attitudes toward Jews. "The Socialists continue to have a generally tolerant approach, traditional since the days of Socialist leader Jean Jaures, while the right has changed, but continues to harbor certain basic prejudices and misconceptions," Deutsch said.

He added that the overall results seemed to show that the younger generation is more tolerant regarding Jews than are older French.

Tribune Juive, which commissioned the poll, was founded in Strassbourg in 1945. It is now published in Paris and has slightly more than 15,000 subscribers. Its editor and publisher is Rabbi Jacquot Grunewald.

ISRAEL PRICE INDEX UP 1.6 PERCENT

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Dec. 15 (JTA) -- Israeli officials are concerned about the 1.6 percent rise in the cost-of-living index in November, which the Central Bureau of Statistics announced Tuesday.

The rise is six-tenths of a percent higher than forecast and brings the inflation rate for the first 11 months of the year to 14.7 percent.

The rate for all of 1987 is expected to hit 16 percent when the December figures are released on Jan. 15.

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LUBAVITCH LOSES A BATTLE IN HOLIDAY 'WAR OF SYMBOLS'

By Andrew Silow Carroll

NEW YORK, Dec. 15 (JTA) -- A federal district court judge in Tampa turned down a request from the Lubavitch movement Tuesday to order the cities of Sarasota and Tampa, Fla. to allow members of the movement to place menorahs on public land in those communities.

Judge Elizabeth A. Kovachevich ruled that Lubavitch would not be irreparably harmed by the cities' refusal to allow menorahs to be placed on public land and that the movement had not successfully demonstrated the merits of its claim that it was entitled to place religious symbols on public property, the American Jewish Congress reported.

A federal district court judge in Ohio turned down a similar request Tuesday from Lubavitch representatives seeking permission to place a menorah on public property in Cincinnati, AJCongress reported.

The Florida and Ohio cases are just the latest skirmishes in what some are calling "the war of the symbols." At issue is a fundamental question of constitutional rights and, perhaps not coincidentally, a restatement of the basic Chanukah theme: What is the best way to protect the religious freedom of the minority despite the symbolic and cultural influence of the majority?

In the view of the Lubavitch, the Brooklyn-based Hasidic sect also known as Chabad, the best way is by ensuring "equal treatment." A Constitution that allows Christmas trees and other holiday decorations to be displayed on public property should protect the lighting of menorahs in government places, they argue.

For groups like the American Civil Liberties Union and such major American Jewish organizations as the AJCongress and the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith, the answer is to remove all religious symbols -- crosses, creches and menorahs -- from public property and government buildings.

Battle On Several Fronts

As some Americans celebrate Chanukah this week and other Americans prepare to celebrate Christmas in two weeks, the "war of the symbols" is being fought on a number of fronts, including:

* Hyde Park, Vt., where attorney Valerie White and the ACLU are crusading for removal of a cross from the courthouse lawn.

* Palm Beach, Broward and Dade counties, Fla., where the state Department of Transportation withdrew permission it had previously granted the Synagogue of Inverrary-Chabad to erect menorahs at five toll plaza locations along the Florida Turnpike.

* Chicago, where the city has reversed a decision to display a creche and a menorah in Daley Plaza downtown, and has revoked a Chabad permit.

That so many of these disputes involve menorahs is a relatively new development. Traditionally, the war of the symbols has focused on Jewish objections to Christian displays: nativity scenes on courthouse steps, crosses on the roofs of firehouses.

Display on public land implies government sponsorship, Jewish groups have long argued, and government sponsorship conveys the unconstitutional "establishment" of religion by government, barred by the First Amendment to the Constitution.

"When the symbolism is Christian, as it almost always will be, given the demography of America, the message conveyed is the establishment of Christianity," Marc Stern, co-director of the American Jewish Congress Commission on Law and Social Action, writes in a recent report.

Winning The Rank And File

But in recent years, the Lubavitch movement has shown a new assertiveness in erecting menorahs on public property, meaning Jewish groups are now taking opposite sides on constitutional issues. And for a change, the public relations race may belong to the Lubavitch, who speak to the segment of the Jewish rank and file that believes, "If you can't beat 'em, join 'em."

The Florida cases began after the City Commissions in Sarasota and Tampa denied Chabad permission to place "a religious symbol" -- a menorah -- on public land.

Tuesday's court decision turned down a last-minute request by Chabad to place a temporary restraining order on the bans.

According to Rabbi Alter Bukiet, executive director of Chabad Lubavitch of Manasota, Fla., Chabad had been attempting to demonstrate that a menorah, like a Christmas tree, is a universal, secular symbol as well as a religious one -- and its message is thus protected under its constitutional right to free speech.

A Secular Symbol?

But according to a brief filed in the Sarasota-Tampa case by the American Jewish Congress on behalf of the Sarasota-Manatee Jewish Federation, the ADL and itself, Chabad's claims for the secularity of the menorah are a "sham," masking the movement's true purpose in attempting to erect the menorah.

"The menorah is intended to be a religious symbol, and the (Lubavitch) leaders boast of its success in that regard," according to the brief.

The brief followed a standard argument in church-state litigation: A Christmas tree, unlike a menorah, is for First Amendment purposes a secular symbol, because it carries a seasonal, but no actual religious, significance.

As in other communities, the local Jewish federation in Sarasota had invited Chabad to erect its menorah on federation or other privately-owned property. According to Jack Weintraub, executive director of the Sarasota-Manatee Jewish Federation, Bukiet's reply to that invitation was, "We'll do that, too."

Members of the Lubavitch movement concede that erecting the menorahs on public property is one of the very goals of the program -- an effort to provide what one rabbi described as "qualitative visibility."

"On public property it's us looking together -- it's not 'you' looking in,' " said Bukiet.

Tuesday's court decisions have by no means settled the "war of the symbols." According to Ruti Teitel, assistant director of the legal affairs department of ADL's civil rights division, "The differences between the Lubavitch and the rest of the community don't just revolve on this issue. It's just one part. There's aid to parochial schools, moments of silence, on and on. All are fundamental policy questions of how best to protect Jews."

"No one likes to play Grinch," said Marc Stern, "but that's what this job requires."

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SUMMIT DIDN'T FAIL ON HUMAN RIGHTS, U.S. OFFICIAL SAYS

By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, Dec. 10 (JTA) -- President Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev ended their three days of talks Thursday with Reagan calling the summit a "clear success."

The two leaders signed on Tuesday an agreement to dismantle medium- and short-range nuclear missiles. But from both public and private comments there was no indication that any movement had been made on human rights, including the issue of increased Jewish emigration.

However, a senior administration official, briefing the thousands of reporters who covered the summit, said he would not "classify" the human rights discussion as "a failure."

He noted that Reagan said American and Soviet societies most "come in contrast, come in conflict" on the issue of human rights and addressed the topic throughout the summit.

In his statement bidding farewell to Gorbachev, during a heavy rain on the south lawn of the White House, Reagan stressed that human rights will continue to be discussed with the Soviets.

"Our exchange on the subject of human rights underscored the priority we in the Western democracies place on respect for fundamental freedoms," the president said.

'Continuing Dialogue'

"I am pleased that during this summit we addresed this area of heartfelt importance and ensured a continuing dialogue on human rights at the highest levels of our governments."

Gorbachev also mentioned human rights in his departure statement, the first time he has referred to it in public here.

"We have had a useful exchange of views which have clarified each other's position concerning regional conflicts, the development of our bilateral ties and human rights," the Soviet leader said.

He added that "on some of these aspects, it seems likely that we can soon identify specific solutions, satisfactory to both us and to other countries." It was not clear whether this included human rights. More likely he meant regional issues.

The senior administration official said the Arab-Israel conflict was discussed by the two leaders, although it apparently was not a major topic during the discussion on regional issues.

Soviet Jewry activists present agreed Thursday that no progress had been made on human rights at the summit. "We at least got our licks in," Glenn Richter of the Student Struggle for Soviet Jewry told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency.

He was referring to the massive rally on Sunday, in which some 250,000 people participated, as well as the subsequent demonstrations in which Richter took part.

The National Conference on Soviet Jewry took Gorbachev to task for saying he was "tired" of the human rights issue when questioned about it during his meetings with various groups.

When Reagan brought up the issue, Gorbachev is reported to have said, "You are not the prosecutor and I am not the accused."

"Mr. Gorbachev has it wrong," the national conference said, apparently referring to the Helsinki human rights accords. "The Soviet Union gave the international community the right to judge its compliance with its international human rights agreements."

REFUSENIKS INVITED TO PURSUE VISAS DESPITE LACK OF FINANCIAL WAIVERS

By Susan Birnbaum

NEW YORK, Dec. 10 (JTA) -- Soviet emigration officials Wednesday told an unspecified number of Moscow Jewish refuseniks to reapply to emigrate even though their relatives have refused to sign waivers of financial obligation.

But it was unclear whether the waiver, known by refuseniks as the "poor relatives" clause, was officially rescinded.

New York City Councilman Noach Dear said it was. He informed the Jewish Telegraphic Agency Wednesday that a spokesperson in the office of Konstantin Kharchev, chairman of the Soviet Council of Religious Affairs, told him by telephone from Moscow that the requirement of a financial waiver from relatives was being abandoned.

He said the spokesperson related that the emigration office was calling refuseniks and telling them to reapply for visas. Dear estimated that up to 500 people could be affected.

The waiver, clause 24 of the codified rules for emigration published in January, has been an integral part of the process of obtaining emigration visas, and its absence has prevented many refuseniks from receiving exit visas.

Relatives who do not wish their relatives to emigrate frequently refuse to sign the waiver even if financial obligations are not at issue.

'Delay Tactic'

However, a long-time Moscow refusenik told the Long Island Committee for Soviet Jewry that only members of a seminar group founded by Alia Zonis had been notified they may reapply, and that refuseniks were largely considering it a "delay tactic" at the time of the U.S.-Soviet summit meetings.

But Dear said refusenik Vladimir (Zeev) Dashevsky of Moscow, who is not part of Zonis' group, said he received a phone call from the Moscow emigration office Wednesday morning telling him to reapply for a visa. Dashevsky added that some of his friends had also received similar calls, and that the news had been announced in the media.

He told his daughter, Irina Dashevsky Kara-Ivanov, a former refusenik living in Israel since May, by telephone Tuesday night that he would reapply. But she said Wednesday night she was not sure he or other refuseniks would actually receive visas.

"I hope this is a good sign," she said, "but I will believe it only when I see my father in Israel. . . We would like to believe that there are positive changes in the Soviet Union and that there is real glasnost and democracy."

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SOVIET OFFICIAL SAYS RALLY WON'T INCREASE JEWISH EMIGRATION
By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Dec. 10 (JTA) -- The massive demonstration for Soviet Jewry in Washington last Sunday, just prior to the Reagan-Gorbachev summit meeting, will have no effect on Soviet emigration policy, a senior Soviet official told Israel Radio's Washington correspondent Thursday.

According to Vitaly Jurkin, deputy director of the Soviet Institute of the USA and Canada, the "Freedom Sunday" rally "will have no influence at all on the situation." The rally drew more than 200,000 people of all faiths to demand free emigration for Soviet Jews.

He said "the Soviet Union is moving ahead along many areas of human rights, including the issue which I personally consider to be a very difficult issue -- that of emigration."

He defended new regulations that Soviet Jewry activists say make it more difficult to apply for an exit visa. "The new regulations, as you know, were adopted and the Soviet Union started implementing them at the beginning of this year. The number of emigrants from the Soviet Union increased," Jurkin said.

But he disputed the number of Jews said to be seeking permission to emigrate. "Anyone on the Soviet side who deals with this problem considers as fantastic the figures which are sometimes mentioned -- 400,000, 40,000 -- I don't know how many thousand.

"So in this sense I don't think the demonstration influenced the Soviet position," Jurkin said. "But at the same time, in this dimension which has nothing to do with the demonstrations -- in the dimension of the increasing democratization in the Soviet Union, of glasnost (openness), an attempt to settle really many of the problems which do exist -- I think this process will continue."

Relations With Israel

Jurkin maintained that relations between Israel and the Soviet Union have improved in recent years, and he suggested that the issue should be discussed "calmly and practically."

Foreign Minister Shimon Peres, meanwhile, said he was pessimistic about chances that the summit meeting between President Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev has changed the Soviet position toward the Middle East.

Speaking to reporters Thursday during a visit to Kiryat Shemona, near the Lebanese border, Peres said, "I don't think it (the summit) will have a direct effect on Israel."

When asked if Moscow might stop supplying Syria with SAM-2 anti-aircraft missiles and other weapons, he said, "I wish it would -- but I'm not sure." He added that the Soviets recently supplied Damascus with more guns and artillery.

The foreign minister appeared disappointed that Reagan and Gorbachev apparently did not discuss an international conference on the Middle East, which Peres strongly advocates as the only feasible opening for direct peace negotiations between Israel and its Arab neighbors.

He noted that the issue has not come up so far and that five months would elapse before the next summit meeting in Moscow. But Peres added that he would not allow the time to be wasted.

Asked if he would take any initiatives for an international conference in the interim, Peres replied, "Yes, yes, I think it is our problem. I would like to see peace with our neighbors.

"Maybe for the Soviet Union, it is not as burning an issue as it is for us. But I intend to continue and act tirelessly for peace in the future," the foreign minister said. He likened an international conference to the "open fence" between Israel and Lebanon, "an opening to peace."

Peres was more hopeful with respect to the treaty banning intermediate range nuclear weapons, which Reagan and Gorbachev signed at the White House Tuesday. "We shall, all of us, breathe better air and have more hope as citizens of this globe," he said.

ISRAELI ARAB SENTENCED TO LIFE FOR KILLING SOLDIER
By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Dec. 10 (JTA) -- An Israeli Arab convicted of killing a soldier narrowly escaped the death penalty in a Nablus military court Thursday.

Ahmad Ali Abu-Jabar, of Kfar Kassem near Petach Tikva, was sentenced to life imprisonment for the murder of IDF soldier Akiva Shealtiel on April 6, 1985.

Two of the three judges hearing the case favored the death penalty, but it was not imposed because the prosecutor failed to demand capital punishment and one of the judges dissented. The death penalty cannot be imposed without a unanimous vote of judges trying a case.

Col. Yehoshua Halevy, president of the court, in fact reprimanded the prosecutor. He said the death penalty was called for in this case, because the accused is a citizen of Israel who betrayed his country by killing a soldier.

According to the authorities, Abu-Jabar belonged to an Al Fatah terrorist gang, which tried several times to kidnap Israeli soldiers, finally succeeding with Shealtiel. After his murder, they fired at a bus and tried to kill a local leader in the Arab town of Kalkilya whom they suspected of collaboration with the Israeli authorities.

During the sentencing procedures, Shealtiel's family tried to attack the defendant. He was rushed into an adjoining room under the protection of soldiers.

HERZOG LEAVES FOR BRITAIN VISIT
By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Dec. 10 (JTA) -- Israeli President Chaim Herzog left Thursday on a six-day visit to Britain.

Herzog, accompanied by his wife, Aura, and two aides, is making his second trip to Britain since he took office five years ago. He will have tea with Queen Elizabeth and lunch with Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, but the trip is officially billed as a "working visit."

Herzog plans to attend ceremonies marking the 70th anniversary of the Balfour Declaration declaring British support for a Jewish homeland and the 40th anniversary of Israel's independence, organized by the Anglo-Jewish community.

Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin, meanwhile, was to leave for the United States Thursday night on a 10-day visit during which he will sign a new memorandum of understanding with Secretary of Defense Frank Carlucci. The agreement will put U.S.-Israel ties on an equal footing with Washington's relations with its NATO allies.

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SENATE VOTES TO BAN SAUDIS FROM RECEIVING ADVANCED F-15s

By Howard Rosenberg

WASHINGTON, Dec. 10 (JTA) -- The Senate voted unanimously Wednesday to prohibit the sale or transfer of F-15E aircraft to Saudi Arabia, although it permitted the sale of earlier, less sophisticated models of the F-15.

The amendment, sponsored by Sen. Howard Metzenbaum (D-Ohio), also stipulated that Saudi Arabia may not have more than 60 F-15s at any one time.

The House of Representatives approved identical legislation last month as part of the foreign aid authorization bill.

President Reagan is expected to receive the bill later this month, after the Senate and House bills are approved in final form.

In a related matter, the Senate Appropriations Committee voted last week to ban the sale of Stinger anti-aircraft missiles to Bahrain or any other Persian Gulf state for one year. The House had approved such a ban last month.

Key supporters of Israel, including Rep. Stephen Solarz (D-N.Y.), Sen. Daniel Inouye (D-Hawaii) and Sen. Robert Kasten Jr. (R-Wis.) favored selling Stingers to Bahrain, arguing that it is a key ally, since it provides the United States with access to military facilities.

The administration also supported selling Stingers to Bahrain, with Defense Secretary Frank Carlucci leading the effort. It could invoke special emergency powers to implement such a sale. In 1984, President Reagan imposed such powers to sell Stingers and launchers to Saudi Arabia. However, in 1985, Congress killed Reagan's proposed sale of 72 Stingers to Jordan.

A vote on proposals to restructure Israel's debt to the United States is expected in Congress on Friday.

U.N. OFFICIAL WON'T COMMENT WHETHER MISSING FILES LOCATED

By Yitzhak Rabi

UNITED NATIONS, Dec. 10 (JTA) -- A U.N. official declined to comment Thursday on a report that most of the 432 files missing from the U.N. war crimes archives had been located.

U.N. spokesman Francois Giuliani did say, however, that the investigation into the missing files, ordered Tuesday by Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar, was complete and that the results would be given to the secretary general Thursday night and made public Friday.

The New York Times reported Thursday that U.N. officials had located virtually all of the files reported missing and that the rest are expected to be found shortly. The Times attributed its report to U.N. officials whom it did not name.

Israeli diplomats told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency they also had heard "the rumors" of the found files, but had no evidence.

The archives, stored in a Manhattan building, contain 8,100 files with documents on more than 40,000 Nazi war criminals and their collaborators. They were compiled by the Allied War Crimes Commission and placed in U.S. custody in 1947, after which the commission disbanded.

They were accessible only to the governments of U.N. member states until Perez de Cuellar ordered them opened to scholars, researchers and historians on Nov. 23.

The disclosure that more than 400 of the files had "mysteriously vanished" was made Tuesday in a New York Post article by its Middle East correspondent, Uri Dan. Dan was the first journalist given access to the files under the recent order.

'Surprised And Disturbed'

His revelation, confirmed by the director of the archives, Alf Erlandsson, "surprised and disturbed" the secretary general, a U.N. spokesman said Wednesday, and he ordered a full investigation.

According to Dan, Erlandsson confirmed that the missing files include documents submitted by France, Britain, the United States and Belgium, all relating to atrocities committed by Germans.

The investigation was headed by Richard Foran, U.N. assistant secretary general for general services. He visited the archives Thursday morning to complete it.

According to the spokesman, the investigation would try to determine, among other things, whether the missing files were separated from the archives while they were in U.N. custody or if they were even received. He said these files may have been legally withdrawn from the archives for unspecified reasons.

Dan reported that the missing files included Yugoslavian documents relating to the wartime activities of President Kurt Waldheim of Austria.

SUSPECTED WAR CRIMINAL IS FIRST INDICTED UNDER NEW CANADIAN LAW

By Michael Solomon

TORONTO, Dec. 10 (JTA) -- Imre Finta, a 71-year-old Toronto restaurant owner of Hungarian origin, was indicted for war crimes in federal court here Wednesday. He is the first naturalized Canadian citizen to face prosecution under a recently enacted law that allows Canadian courts to try suspected war criminals for crimes committed on foreign soil.

Finta was identified by Sabina Citron, head of the Holocaust Remembrance Association, and several other Holocaust survivors as a former captain in the Honveds, a police force in Nazi-controlled Hungary during World War II. He is said to have tortured and murdered Jews and looted their possessions.

The indictment charges him with crimes committed in the Hungarian city of Szeged between April 7 and July 15, 1944 and later in Austria and Hungary. He is accused of kidnapping and confining 8,615 Jews in concentration camps and of manslaughter in the deaths of an unspecified number. He is believed to have personally murdered 34 Jews for their valuables.

Bail was set at $100,000 (Canadian). No trial date has been announced.

The indictment of Finta has an ironic twist. Three years ago, he sued Citron for libel in civil court for publicly denouncing him as a war criminal. His suit was rejected by the court.

Finta's name was the first to be made public out of a list of 22 suspected Nazi war criminals against whom a national government commission found sufficient evidence to warrant legal action.

The commission, headed by Quebec Superior Court Justice Jules Deschenes, spent more than a year investigating suspected Nazi war criminals living in Canada.

The commission's report named another 212 possible suspects who warrant further investigation.

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GAS STATION OFFERING 'JESUS DISCOUNT' WON'T KNEEL TO REQUEST FROM EXXON

By Andrew Silow Carroll

NEW YORK, Dec. 10 (JTA) -- The Exxon Corp. has so far been unable to convince a Pensacola, Fla., gas station owner to remove a sign that advertises a 10 percent discount on labor to "those whom Jesus loves."

The sign replaces an advertisement posted in November by the owner of the Cordova Mall Exxon station, Jerry Harrison, 45, which read, "Notice: For Christians only, 10 percent discount on labor."

According to a spokesman for Exxon's consumer and regulatory affairs office in Houston, Harrison changed the original wording of the sign after the oil company informed his attorney, Paul Shimek, that they would commence legal action under the 1964 Civil Rights Act.

The corporation has not yet received a response to a letter written to Shimek requesting removal of the second sign, and is "reconsidering legal options," said the spokesman.

The Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith, meanwhile, has filed complaints with the Florida attorney general's office, the U.S. Justice Department and the state attorney in Escambria County. All are investigating whether the sign violates local, state and federal laws regulating discriminatory advertising and fair trade practices.

"In Florida, you may not post an advertisement that suggests a person is unwelcome in your place of business because of his religion," said Arthur Teitelbaum, Southern area director of the ADL.

'Chilling Effect' On Customers

Although Harrison maintains that Jesus loves everyone, and everyone is thus entitled to the discount, the sign would still have a "chilling effect" upon a potential customer, said Teitelbaum.

"Exxon has an official duty to restrain its lessee from engaging in unlawful behavior," said Teitelbaum. "We are impatient at this juncture with the length of time it has taken Exxon to seek its legal options."

Harrison, who has leased the gas station from Exxon since 1968, told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that he "has taken a lot of heat" from the Exxon business counselor who represents the company in his area.

"I've been getting a lot of hassles from Exxon, but I am the sole proprietor of my business. I pay all the taxes, rent and bills. I don't tell them how to run their business and they can't tell me," he said.

Harrison explained that he "accepted Jesus Christ as his savior" in July and posted the sign as a way of advertising Jesus' name.

He said that "some, not a tremendous amount" of customers have taken advantage of the discount, although his support in the community is "99 percent."

"I run my station, live within the law and have paid my debt to society like anybody else. I don't need Exxon breathing down my neck," said Harrison.

"Jesus Christ represents me, and he's bigger than Exxon," he added.

According to attorney Shimek, he has received Exxon's letter and "will get to it." Shimek said he suggested the rewording of the original sign and that it "boggles my mind how (the second one) can be offensive."

"If 6 percent of the people in this country who are atheists are offended, does that mean 94 percent who believe in a creator have to bow down?" he added.

UNREST MOUNTS IN TERRITORIES, AS ARAB IS KILLED IN NABLUS

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Dec. 10 (JTA) -- New eruptions of violence resulted in at least one death and numerous injuries as Israel Defense Force units and border police battled Arab rioters in the West Bank and Gaza Strip on Thursday.

An Arab was killed and an IDF officer was wounded in Nablus Thursday morning. According to military sources, an IDF patrol was attacked in the center of town by a mob wielding iron bars and hurling rocks.

The soldiers fired tear gas and rubber bullets, but then used live ammunition when the rioters failed to disperse. A local resident was killed and another was wounded and hospitalized, the sources reported.

Border police chased demonstrators in the nearby Balata refugee camp. A woman who allegedly tried to stab a policeman was badly beaten and hospitalized.

Five high school students were wounded and 23 were arrested during a demonstration at a vocational school in the Kalandiya refugee camp, north of Jerusalem. Police dispersed the demonstrators with clubs and tear gas.

According to military sources, the students threw rocks at the police, injuring several of them. About 20 students were overcome by tear gas.

Violence spread in the Gaza Strip Thursday in the aftermath of the fatal shooting of a 17-year-old high school student and the wounding of 10 others by IDF soldiers Wednesday. Youths hurled Molotov cocktails at an army patrol in Khan Yunis, in the northern Gaza Strip. The soldiers opened fire, wounding three students.

Young Arabs erected barriers on many roads in the Gaza Strip and threw stones at Israeli security forces. Tear gas, rubber bullets and finally live ammunition were used to disperse them. At least five youths were wounded.

The ongoing violence in the Gaza Strip prompted Foreign Minister Shimon Peres to suggest in the Knesset Monday that Israeli settlements in the territory be dismantled and that the area be demilitarized.

Premier Yitzhak Shamir blasted the proposal Tuesday, saying "it will never be."

DULZIN REFUSED ZIONIST PRESIDENCY

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Dec. 9 (JTA) -- The World Zionist Congress presidium decided Thursday not to fill the office of president of the World Zionist Organization at this time.

The matter was deferred to the next meeting of the Zionist General Council in 1988, dashing the hopes of Leon Dulzin to be the first president of the WZO in 20 years.

Dulzin, the outgoing chairman of the WZO-Jewish Agency Executive, had lobbied vigorously for the largely honorary position, last held by the late Nahum Goldmann.

The General Council is the governing body of the WZO between Zionist congresses.

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VIOLENCE MOVES TO JERUSALEM; ISRAEL WORRIES OVER IMAGE

By Gil Sedan and Hugh Orgel

JERUSALEM, Dec. 17 (JTA) -- The Gaza Strip was relatively free of rioting Thursday, but a spate of incidents in and around Jerusalem has Israeli officials concerned that the disturbances of the past week have not ended, but only shifted locale and may reignite in the West Bank.

Arab students burned tires in East Jerusalem roads Thursday and erected roadblocks in Ramallah and El Bireh in the West Bank just north of Jerusalem, from which they hurled stones at Israeli vehicles.

Several young Arabs were arrested after police used tear gas to break up a demonstration outside the Jerusalem residence of Premier Yitzhak Shamir Wednesday night. On Thursday, dozens of Arab students stood vigil outside police headquarters in the Russian Compound, where the detainees were being held.

A curfew was reimposed Thursday on the Balata refugee camp near Nablus. A violent demonstration erupted after a group of Israeli leftists visited the camp to place wreaths on the graves of three residents killed by the Israel Defense Force last Friday. No injuries were reported.

Compared to the violence that inflamed the Gaza Strip during the past eight days, military sources said, disturbances in the Gaza Strip were "minor and few."

There were new demonstrations at the Jebalya refugee camp in the strip, one of the main trouble spots. In the town of Gaza, many shops remained closed. Israeli sources reported, however, that local Palestinians have resumed commuting to jobs in Israel in greater numbers.

According to senior military sources, the apparent de-escalation of violence Thursday may be only a breathing spell. But it allows time for the security forces to absorb the lessons of recent days, they said.

One lesson is the need for the IDF to improve its communications with the Arab population in the West Bank and Gaza Strip in order to quickly lay to rest rumors that have provoked fear and violence.

Concern About East Jerusalem

Furthermore, most observers acknowledge that a potentially ugly situation could develop in East Jerusalem in reaction to the move by Minister of Commerce and Industry Ariel Sharon into a flat in the Old City's Moslem Quarter.

Many Israelis, including Jerusalem Mayor Teddy Kollek, consider this deliberately provocative. Sharon, a Herut member, insists his move will improve security in the Old City and encourage many Jews to follow his example.

The newest controversy surrounding Israel's most controversial minister underscores the sharp differences between left and right over how to deal with mounting Arab opposition to Israeli rule in the territories.

Appearing on television Wednesday night, Sharon said the deteriorating security situation prompted his decision to make his home in the Old City, which Israel captured in the 1967 war. He accused Israel's leadership of indecision and called for severe measures against the political arm of the Palestine Liberation Organization, which, he contended, acts "freely" in Jerusalem.

Fellow minister and fellow former defense minister, Ezer Weizman of Labor, accused Sharon of "cheap demagoguery."

Haaretz reported Thursday that Shamir drew criticism for not visiting the West Bank or Gaza since the disturbances began. Shamir is acting defense minister in the absence of Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin, who has been in the United States this week.

Labor Ministers Abroad

Labor Party ministers are demanding the immediate return of Rabin and Foreign Minister Shimon Peres, presently touring South America, Haaretz reported. Labor finds itself in an awkward position with its two top leaders out of the country at a time when the IDF must cope with the worst disturbances in 20 years.

Another growing source of concern is the damage to Israel's image worldwide by the daily television and press coverage of IDF soldiers battling youthful Palestinian demonstrators in the Gaza Strip.

Yossi Beilin, political director-general of the Foreign Ministry, was quoted by Haaretz Wednesday as saying that Israel has not been under such severe international media criticism since the bombing of Beirut in 1982.

He said the Foreign Ministry has issued directives to Israeli embassies abroad to explain to their host governments that the IDF is taking every possible measure to contain the violence and prevent the loss of lives.

Beilin reported that the Foreign Ministry would set up a special "think tank" to find ways to improve Israel's image abroad. He said that while it was hard to explain photographs of soldiers firing at Arab youths, it was possible to track down and deny false rumors that have contributed to criticism of Israel.

He charged meanwhile that the PLO has taken advantage of the disturbances and continues to incite the rioters.

What is seen abroad is also seen on Israeli television. IDF investigators said Thursday that they had traced an Israeli who was filmed Wednesday firing a submachine gun at Gaza residents. Military sources said the man, a member of the security services, was questioned about the incident.

Gen. Yitzhak Mordechai, commander of the southern region, said the man could face trial if it is found that he violated rules governing the use of firearms by the security forces.

In Egypt, the only Arab country that has a peace treaty with Israel, the Cairo press accused Israel Wednesday of "barbaric brutality, surpassing Nazi acts."

King Hussein of Jordan and PLO deputy chief Abu-Jihad, who is presently in Jordan, sharply attacked Israel Wednesday and extolled the "popular Palestinian uprising." Al Hamishmar reported that Hussein linked Israel and Iran as the two chief enemies of the Arab world.

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U.S. LOOKS INTO U.N. RESOLUTION CONDEMNING VIOLENCE IN TERRITORIES

By Yitzhak Rabi

UNITED NATIONS, Dec. 17 (JTA) -- The United States is negotiating with the Arab countries "to let them know what's acceptable" in a Security Council draft resolution critical of Israel's handling of violence in the administered territories, the U.S. ambassador to the United Nations, Vernon Walters, reported Thursday.

Walters indicated that the United States will not decide how it will vote until the resolution is completed. He said, however, that the current proposals contain "some negative elements." He declined to provide details.

The Security Council has scheduled for Thursday night its fifth debate since last Friday on the Gaza and West Bank violence, in which Palestinian civilians are battling Israeli riot police and troops. About 15 countries have registered to speak at the debate, which led observers here to believe that the resolution will not be up for a vote until Friday at least.

On Wednesday night, Israeli U.N. Ambassador Benjamin Netanyahu presented Israel's case for the first time before the Security Council debate. He charged the Palestine Liberation Organization with inciting the violence that has inflamed the Israeli-administered territories this past week.

The Israeli envoy said the PLO preferred violence to a peaceful resolution of the Palestinian situation. He stressed that the Israel Defense Force was under strict orders to avoid or minimize the loss of life.

He contended further that Israel's duty is to quell violence and maintain order in the territories.

Netanyahu spoke after three consecutive meetings during which Arab envoys, without exception, blasted Israel and demanded that the Security Council impose sanctions against Israel and require withdrawal from the territories it occupied in 1967.

Netanyahu focussed his counterattack on the PLO. He claimed it wants "to bring about the loss of life, not only of Israelis but also, indeed especially, of young Arabs."

"This violence," Netanyahu continued, "would then be used to convene the Security Council for the purpose of conducting the usual tirades against Israel and 'the Israeli occupation.' The actual convening of the council is then further used, as (PLO chief Yasir) Arafat himself has exhorted, to draw out the violence as long as possible."

He maintained that the action taken by Israel to quell the demonstrations are in accordance with international treaties. He noted that if one accepts the Arab description of Israel as an occupier, then Israel, under the Geneva Convention, "has the right, indeed the obligation, to maintain the orderly government of the territory and to ensure the security of its forces."

He said "the Geneva Convention fully supports the point we have been making all along: namely, that the first responsibility of any government, military or civilian, is to maintain law and order."

However, the envoy stressed, to maintain law and order in face of incitement is not an easy task. "Our soldiers are under strict instructions," he said. "...Live ammunition is to be used only as a last resort, when their lives are threatened or when they have already been injured."

EEC GROUP URGES GAZA RESTRAINT

By Edwin Eytan (Paris)
and Jean Cohen (Athens)

Dec. 17 (JTA) -- European nations have told Israel to exercise greater restraint in dealing with the violent demonstrations that enveloped the Gaza Strip this past week.

A resolution to that effect was adopted Thursday by the Strasbourg-based Parliament of Europe, the legislative body of the 12-member European Economic Community. Less restrained criticism of Israel was contained in a statement released in Athens Wednesday by the Greek Foreign Ministry.

The European Parliament voted 155 to 15, with one abstention, for a resolution calling on Israel to observe the International Convention on the Rights of Man in the territories it administers and to apply the rights and obligations of an occupying power as defined by the Geneva Convention.

(Israeli Ambassador to the United Nations Benjamin Netanyahu told a Security Council debate Wednesday that Israel's actions are in accord with the Geneva Convention.)

The resolution also called on Israel to agree to an international conference for Middle East peace.

The Greek statement expressed the government's "deep concern over the situation that has developed in the Israel-occupied territories, resulting in the death of many Arab demonstrators, the injuries of others, and arrests and detentions which are contrary to international law."

The statement added that the Greek government "denounces this wave of violence, which does not settle any problems, widens the gap between the two sides, does not further the cause of peace and hinders all efforts to find a solution to the problem."

Greece maintains diplomatic relations with Israel, but not on an ambassadorial level. The Israeli representative in Athens, Moshe Gilboa, who holds the rank of ambassador, disputed the Foreign Ministry's charges during a telephone interview with the Piraeus radio station, Channel 1.

He said Greece should turn its attention to the extreme Moslem elements who instigated the violence. He said Israel regrets every victim of the clashes, but that the first victim was an Israeli civilian, Shlomo Takal, who was stabbed to death in Gaza on Dec. 6.

Gilboa stressed that Israeli soldiers are under orders to shoot only in self-defense. "No army in the world would have reacted to such a situation with such restraint," he said.

The European Parliament rejected a Communist-inspired resolution that would have condemned Israel for using armed forces against a civilian population. The parliament has only consultative status, but carries a certain moral weight and generally influences the national legislative bodies of the 12 EEC member states.

SIX TERRORISTS KILLED IN LEBANON

TEL AVIV, Dec. 17 (JTA) -- Six terrorists were killed in a clash with Israel Defense Force and South Lebanon Army units in the southern Lebanon security zone early Thursday morning.

There were no Israeli or SLA casualties reported.

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CONGRESS PASSES BILL ORDERING CLOSURE OF TWO PLO OFFICES

By Howard Rosenberg

WASHINGTON, Dec. 17 (JTA) -- Congress decided Wednesday to require the closing of both U.S. offices of the Palestine Liberation Organization, despite State Department opposition to closing the group's observer mission at the United Nations.

The measure, included in the final form of the State Department authorization bill, also criticizes the Soviet Union for human rights violations, for impeding the delivery of mail and for failing to upgrade relations with Israel.

The bill now goes to President Reagan for signature.

The portion of the measure closing the PLO's Washington office comes more than a month after the State Department ordered the office to close by Dec. 1.

U.S. District Court Judge Charles Richey affirmed the Sept. 15 State Department order two weeks ago, but an appeal of the decision is pending.

The State Department, however, has consistently opposed closing the PLO's observer mission at the United Nations. On Thursday, department spokesman Charles Redman criticized the congressional provision ordering the mission closed as a "violation of our obligations" under the U.N. Headquarters Treaty.

He would not comment on whether the State Department would urge Reagan to veto the bill.

The measure also bars the PLO from establishing new offices in the United States and makes it illegal for any existing U.S. group to receive anything of value, except information, from the PLO.

In another section of the bill, Congress mandates, with two exceptions, that the United States suspend its participation in any U.N. entity that excludes Israel from membership. The exceptions are membership in the U.N. Security Council and the safeguards program of the International Atomic Energy Agency.

It expresses the sense of the Congress that the International Committee of the Red Cross should grant identical recognition to Israel's Magen David Adom (Red Shield of David) as it accords the Red Cross and Red Crescent. In addition, it calls for Israel's Red Shield of David Society to be made a full member of the League of Red Cross Societies.

In other business Wednesday, House-Senate negotiators approved the foreign debt reform plan that could save Israel $2 billion over 20 years. They also agreed to allow Bahrain to lease 70 Stinger anti-aircraft missiles from the United States for an 18-month period.

The Senate passed both the foreign debt and Stinger provisions last Friday. They must now be voted on again by both the full House and the full Senate.

DEMAND LINKAGE FROM SOVIETS, HAIG TELLS PRESIDENTS CONFERENCE

By Andrew Silow Carroll

NEW YORK, Dec. 17 (JTA) -- Republican presidential candidate Alexander Haig told Jewish leaders Wednesday he was "appalled" that the Reagan administration did not link arms agreements with Soviet concessions on Jewish emigration and what he called Soviet intervention in Nicaragua.

"Linkage enabled us in East-West relations to insist that the Russian government does not have the ability to pick the area which meets their needs while leaving untended violations of human rights and aggressiveness in the developing world," he said.

Haig's criticism of administration policy during the recent superpower summit came at a forum sponsored by the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations.

The former secretary of state under Reagan also discounted a Soviet role in the Middle East peace process, saying that "any conference that gives the Soviet Union, the PLO or Syria a veto role is a contradiction and will not bring peace."

In addition, Haig said he supported Congress' decision to close the Palestine Liberation Organization's Observer Mission at the United Nations.

"While we should be careful to recognize that there are elements of the PLO which aren't terrorist. . . dollars are raised (for the PLO) which support international terrorism, and the judgment was right to close the office," he said.

Haig spoke briefly without notes before taking questions from the audience, primarily on foreign policy.

Besides serving under Reagan, Haig was supreme allied commander of NATO and a White House chief of staff under President Nixon.

While avowing that as a veteran of two wars he would avoid the use of military power at all costs, Haig said that responding to terrorism with force can be "morally right."

On the other hand, he said the reflagging of Kuwaiti oil tankers and the U.S. Navy's role in the Persian Gulf "may jeopardize the very outcome we seek" -- that is, countering the influence of the Soviet Union among the Gulf states.

Haig called Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev "articulate, educated, eloquent" and "agile and imaginative" and, as a result, "perhaps the most dangerous Soviet leader since Lenin."

"We had better have a leader who's had exposure to the Soviet system," he warned, hinting that he had just the leader in mind.

Although Haig has placed as high as third in some presidential polls, the political gadfly admitted he is not being taken seriously as a candidate by the Republican Party leadership.

GORBACHEV TALKS OF BALANCED MIDEAST POLICY; U.S. WANTS PROOF

By Howard Rosenberg

WASHINGTON, Dec. 17 (JTA) -- Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev's declared evenhandedness on the Arab-Israeli conflict is welcome, a U.S. State Department official asserted, but the United States still awaits actual proof of a shift from the Soviets' pro-Arab policy.

In his new book "Perestroika," Gorbachev claims that "nonexistent anti-Israel prejudices are ascribed to the Soviet Union." He stresses that the Soviet Union was one of the first countries to recognize the State of Israel and its legitimate right to exist.

Soviet Anti-Zionist Committee deputy chairman Samuil Zivs also tried to project the evenhanded image last week during the summit here between Gorbachev and President Reagan. Zivs said the Kremlin's substantial military assistance to Syria "has nothing to do" with Soviet-Israeli relations.

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A policy statement released during the summit expressed the same viewpoint. In it, the Soviet Union argued that it does not "seek any unilateral privileges or selfish advantages in the Middle East" and that it "has never been biased to any Mideastern country because of its political system or way of life."

The statement added that the Soviets do not intend to set up "military bases or military blocs" in the Middle East.

A State Department official said that while the United States welcomes many of these Soviet statements, the Reagan administration is looking for "action, not words" from the Soviets. The Soviet Union, so far, has been "obstructionist," and not a "facilitator," to peace in the Middle East, the official added.

For example, noted the official, the Soviet Union has been "dragging its heels" on prodding Iran to accept U.N. Resolution 598 that calls for a cease-fire in the Iran-Iraq war and direct negotiations to end the war.

The official explained that the State Department is looking for concrete actions including improved Soviet Jewish emigration, increased ties with Israel and a "more responsible arms policy" in the region. The official declined to elaborate on that point, but the Soviets have been heavy suppliers of weapons to Syria for many years.

On the question of increased contacts with Israel, neither Gorbachev's book nor the Soviet policy statement foresee it until the beginning of a peace process.

Gorbachev promises in his book, however, that "as for the contacts already existing between our countries, we will not abandon them."

HOST CANCELS ARYAN NATIONS RADIO SHOW IN SALT LAKE CITY

By Susan Birnbaum

NEW YORK, Dec. 17 (JTA) -- The controversial "Aryan Nations Hour" on radio station KZZI-AM near Salt Lake City has been cancelled by its host, Dwight McCarthy, presumably because the station has lost most of its advertisers.

Station manager John Hinton told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency Wednesday that McCarthy discontinued the weekly call-in program after two shows due to sabotage at the station in West Jordan, Utah, including the destruction of a satellite dish. Hinton also cited death threats against his family and the station's advertisers.

But Hinton also acknowledged Wednesday that the station had lost almost all of its advertisers since the "Aryan Nations" show aired Dec. 5. The show espoused the views of the Aryan Nations, a white supremacist group that advocates turning the Pacific Northwest into an all-white bastion.

McCarthy, 37, reportedly blamed the "liberal-Marxist-homosexual Zionist coalition" for his problems at the station. He also claimed to have received death threats from the Jewish Defense League.

Last week, Utah Gov. Norman Bangerter and Salt Lake City Mayor Palmer DePaulis condemned the Aryan Nations for its recruitment efforts in Utah and for broadcasting its message.

On Dec. 5, the newly formed Utahans Against Aryan Nations held a rally against the show in a nearby park.

Hinton said McCarthy might reconsider broadcasting at a later date, and that McCarthy had a constitutional right to buy air time at the station.

McCarthy prepaid KZZI $5,200 for a year's programming for "Aryan Nations Hour." He had begun broadcasting at the station in July with his "Counter-Marxist Hour."

McCarthy has said he prefers the appellation "white separatist" to "white supremacist," and broadcast his arguments for separating the races into "homelands."

The Jewish population in the Salt Lake City area is 2,400.

Rick Trank of the Simon Wiesenthal Center in Los Angeles, which has been monitoring developments at the station, noted that the station had lost advertisers since first broadcasting the show, and was drawing the ire of listeners.

At the Wiesenthal Center's request, Rep. John Dingell (D-Mich.) has contacted the Federal Communications Commission, which is examining the matter. A month ago, the FCC said it saw no "clear and present danger" from the "Aryan Nations Hour."

"It's our position that this KZZI incident could repeat itself in other cities unless some corrective action is taken by the FCC," Trank said.

MENGELE MAY STILL LIVE, ASSERTS KNESSET MEMBER

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Dec. 17 (JTA) -- A Knesset member just returned from South America claimed Thursday to have "hard evidence" that human bones exhumed from a grave in Sao Paulo, Brazil on June 6, 1985 are not the remains of Auschwitz death camp doctor Josef Mengele.

The assertion by Dov Shilansky of Likud contradicts the findings of forensic and medical experts from several countries who examined the remains at the time and concluded "within a reasonable scientific certainty" that they were the skeletal remains of Mengele. The accused war criminal may thus still be alive.

Mengele, whose so-called medical experiments resulted in the death or maiming of countless Auschwitz inmates, had been the object of a world-wide manhunt since the end of World War II.

Rewards totalling $3.4 million were offered in 1985 for information on his whereabouts. Many Nazi-hunters believed he lived in Paraguay. But the search was called off when a German couple living in Brazil, Wolfram and Liselotte Bossert, took police to the grave where they said Mengele was buried.

The couple said they had sheltered him for 10 years, during which time he used the name Wolfgang Gerhardt. Gerhardt drowned in 1979.

But Shilansky told reporters here that a dentist in Brazil, Dr. Helena Bueno Vieria de Castro, told him she treated Mengele under the alias of Pedro Miller long after Gerhardt's drowning. According to Shilansky, she confirmed that Miller's dental file was identical with Mengele's SS dental file, a copy of which Shilansky gave her to examine.

However, dental records convinced American and Brazilian experts that Gerhardt was indeed Mengele. Dr. Lowell Levine, a consultant with the New York State Police, and Dr. Carlos Valerio, a specialist in forensic medicine, signed an affidavit in March 1986 attesting that the X-ray of the exhumed remains matched Mengele's dental records.

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MORE WOUNDED IN EIGHTH DAY OF VIOLENCE IN GAZA STRIP

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Dec. 16 (JTA) -- Three more Palestinians and an Israeli soldier were wounded in the Gaza Strip Wednesday as violent demonstrations continued for the eighth consecutive day. There was also new unrest in East Jerusalem and the West Bank.

The soldier was stabbed in his shoulder while on patrol in Rafah, a town at the southernmost end of the Gaza Strip that is bisected by the Israeli-Egyptian border. He fired on his assailants, wounding two of them. According to an Israel Radio report, the soldier sustained light to moderate injuries.

Another Palestinian was wounded by Israel Defense Force soldiers who opened fire at stone-throwers at the Nusseirat refugee camp near Rafah.

Demonstrations broke out again at the Shifa hospital in Gaza, where a Palestinian was killed Tuesday by IDF troops sent to quell a riot on the hospital grounds. Shifa hospital is the receiving center for Palestinians wounded in clashes with the IDF.

Gen. Yitzhak Mordechai, IDF commander for the southern region, told reporters at a news conference Wednesday that the army was in control of the situation in Gaza. He said his soldiers were under strict orders to fire their weapons only if their lives were in danger.

Disturbances continued at the Balata refugee camp, near Nablus in the West Bank, where three residents were killed by the IDF during a riot Monday. Military sources said the disturbances at Balata were influenced by events in the Gaza Strip.

Five Palestinian demonstrators were arrested in East Jerusalem Wednesday. Police used tear gas to disperse crowds of youths hurling stones at passing cars. Tires were burned on the main thoroughfares, but no injuries were reported.

Schools and shops remained closed in East Jerusalem. The strike by local merchants began Tuesday in protest against Ariel Sharon's move into an apartment in the Moslem Quarter of the Old City.

Sharon, who is minister of commerce and industry in the Israeli Cabinet, held a housewarming and Chanukah party at his new home Tuesday night, attended by Premier Yitzhak Shamir and other leading political figures. They were guarded by about 300 armed police. No incidents were reported.

ARABS DRAFTING SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION ON UNREST IN TERRITORIES

By Yitzhak Rabi

UNITED NATIONS, Dec. 16 (JTA) -- The Arab group at the United Nations is working on a draft resolution that would ask the Security Council to dispatch a fact-finding mission to the West Bank and Gaza Strip to investigate the clashes between the Israel Defense Force and the Palestinian population, the Jewish Telegraphic Agency learned Wednesday.

According to sources here, the Arabs also want the council to send U.N. observers to the territories and to condemn Israel for the events there.

The draft resolution is still in the working stages, the sources said, and might be altered if the Arabs feel it is so extreme as to invoke an automatic veto by the United States. The American position is not yet clear.

It is not known when a resolution will be presented for a vote. The Security Council is scheduled to hold its fourth meeting on the situation Wednesday night.

The 15-member body began its debate last Friday and continued it Monday night and Tuesday night. At both sessions, Arab speakers roundly condemned Israel and blamed its continued occupation of the West Bank and Gaza for the violence and loss of life.

SECURITY MEASURES IN TERRITORIES CREATING IMAGE PROBLEM FOR ISRAEL

By Gil Sedan and David Landau

JERUSALEM, Dec. 16 (JTA) -- Israel faced challenges on the diplomatic, domestic and propaganda fronts this week as it tried to quell the worst outbreaks of violence in 20 years in the Gaza Strip and West Bank.

Friendly Western countries, including the United States, Britain and West Germany, have expressed concern and displeasure over the mounting toll of Palestinian dead and wounded in clashes with the Israel Defense Force. Similar feelings were conveyed by Mohammad Bassiouny, the ambassador of Egypt, the only Arab country at peace with Israel.

Meanwhile, unrest in East Jerusalem, linked to events in the territories, has spread to Israel's normally quiescent Arab population.

Peaceful demonstrations of solidarity with their peers in the West Bank and Gaza Strip were held in Nazareth, the largest Arab township in Israel, and in several Arab villages Wednesday. They were organized by the Democratic Front for Peace and Equality, a front of Israel's Communist Party.

At the same time, the National Committee of Arab Mayors, considered the most influential Arab organization in Israel, has urged the government to leave the territories to put an end to the bloodshed. The mayors are considering calling a general strike in sympathy with the West Bank and Gaza Arabs.

In addition, Israel is facing an image problem that may be as serious as the one during the Lebanon war in 1982. For more than a week now, television and front-page newspaper photographs all over the world have shown IDF troops in full battle gear roughing up Palestinian rioters.

U.S. Envoy Protests

The Reagan administration has already told Israel at the highest levels that it opposes many of its actions in the territories. United States Ambassador Thomas Pickering met with Premier Yitzhak Shamir to discuss the situation.

Shamir expressed Israel's regret for the loss of lives, but he blamed the Palestine Liberation

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Organization and "Arab inciters" for aggravating the situation.

He stressed to the American envoy that the IDF and the police are exercising maximum restraint to avoid clashes with the local population and expressed confidence that the territories will soon be calm.

In Washington, visiting Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin made similar statements Wednesday. He insisted that Israel would not bow to pressure from hostile elements. (See related story.)

Meanwhile, Ezer Weizman, acting foreign minister in the absence of Shimon Peres, who is touring Latin America, met with Shamir for two hours Wednesday to discuss the adverse image arising from the tough presentation of events in the world news media. So far, there is no word of any immediate initiative by Israel to balance those reports.

The strict orders given soldiers, to use their weapons only in life-threatening situations and to avoid provocation to the local population in the territories, reflect Jerusalem's sensitivity to the problem. The security forces reportedly deferred such tough measures as administrative arrests and the demolition of houses belonging to terrorists.

An idea raised Monday to close the territories to the news media was reportedly dropped. It was said to have come up at a meeting between Shamir and Gen. Dan Shomron, the IDF chief of staff. Weizman said on a radio interview Tuesday that he rejected it out of hand.

RABIN HAS 'CLEAR CONSCIENCE' ABOUT POLICY IN WEST BANK, GAZA

By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, Dec. 16 (JTA) -- Israeli Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin declared Wednesday that while he regrets that Palestinians have been killed during more than a week of disruptions in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, Israel will continue to put down forcefully any outbreak of "public violent disorder and terror" in the administered territories.

"We are sorry about the loss of life of anyone," Rabin said in a speech at the Brookings Institution. But he stressed that those who engage in the "use of public disorder, terror," must learn that "nothing can be gained" by it.

"The only way to solve the problem is through peace negotiations with Jordan, with Palestinians who are not declared members of the PLO," he stressed, referring to the Palestine Liberation Organization.

Rabin, who spoke at the Washington-based think tank at the end of his three-day visit here, dealt directly in his opening remarks with the situation in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, where nine Palestinians and one Israeli have been killed in the past week.

The defense minister was reportedly asked that Israel exercise restraint during a meeting with Michael Armacost, undersecretary of state for political affairs.

Pro-PLO Protesters

As Rabin spoke, about a dozen persons demonstrated outside the Brookings Institution against Israel's policies in the territories, chanting "long live the PLO, long live (Yasir) Arafat."

At one point, Rabin referred to them by noting that there is nothing wrong with peaceful demonstrators, such as the ones against him. But when demonstrations turn violent with Molotov cocktails and bottles being thrown, fires set, roads blocked, then the Israeli police and army "will use what ever is needed to prevent it," he said.

Instead of participating in violent demonstrations, the Palestinians should tell their leaders "to solve the problem, seek a round of negotiations" with Israel, Rabin said.

He said the situation could be only be resolved when the Arabs renounce war and terror against Israel and decide to seek a solution through negotiations, as did Egyptian President Anwar Sadat.

Rabin suggested that the current outbreak of civil disorder was caused by the "frustration" of the Palestinians that the Arab-Israeli conflict had received such a low priority, first at the recent Arab League meeting and then at the summit meeting between President Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev.

Painful For Both Sides

He said the present situation is "painful" for both the Palestinians and the Israeli soldiers and police who have to enforce order in the territories.

But Rabin stressed he has a "clear conscience" about Israel's policy in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. He noted that Israel has a military government in the territories because it has not taken any unilateral decision, neither annexing the areas nor withdrawing, but is seeking a political solution.

In 1947, the solution for two British Mandates, India and Palestine, was partition on religious grounds, the defense minister observed. But, he added, that while in India, Moslems demanded a separate state -- now two countries, Pakistan and Bangladesh -- the Arabs rejected a Jewish state and went to war against it.

Rabin said that from the armistice of 1949 to the 1967 Six-Day War, Israel repeatedly asked the Arabs to negotiate a peace treaty based on the armistice lines, which would have given the Arabs not only the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, but also East Jerusalem.

He added that while the Arabs now insist that the solution to the Palestinian problem is a Palestinian state, they never suggested such a state during the 19 years they occupied the territories.

Rabin also pointed out that Israel only gained the territories because King Hussein of Jordan rejected pleas from Israel, and entered the 1967 war.

The main purpose of Rabin's visit to Washington was the signing Monday of a memorandum of understanding between the United States and Israel, which formally gives Israel status equivalent to that of a NATO ally of the United States.

This allows Israel to bid on U.S. Defense Department research and development projects, as well as on arms purchases.

Rabin said Wednesday he also wanted to meet with the new defense secretary, Frank Carlucci, and to see if he could negotiate a cheaper price for the F-16, the fighter jet Israel agreed to purchase when it abandoned development of the Lavi.

Rabin also denied that Israel is providing weapons to Iran, as reports in the press repeatedly claim. He stressed that both Iran and Iraq are "bitter enemies of Israel" and Israel would like to see the war between them end with a "no-win situation."

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CHIRAC MEETS WITH PLO MEMBER, AS CABINET BACKS PEACE CONFERENCE

By Edwin Eytan

PARIS, Dec. 16 (JTA) -- Premier Jacques Chirac broke precedent Wednesday by formally receiving, for the first time, a representative of the Palestine Liberation Organization.

Ibrahim Suss, who heads the PLO office in Paris, was part of a delegation of Arab ambassadors who called on Chirac to protest Israel's "repressive" actions in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. They urged French diplomatic intervention "to stop the bloodshed."

Chirac, leader of the center-right government, has been actively wooing the Jewish vote for the past six years and until now has flatly refused to meet any PLO representatives. His diplomatic adviser, Francois Boujon de l'Estaing, refused to comment on the meeting with Suss.

But Arab sources said Chirac "could not do otherwise in the face of the increasing number of Palestinian victims."

The French government also made a significant switch in attitude toward the Middle East peace process when it called on Israel Tuesday "to start a dialogue and negotiations' with "all interested parties within the framework of an international peace conference."

Until now, France has carefully avoided taking sides on the issue of an international conference, which has sharply divided Israel's coalition government.

'Worry And Emotion'

But the statement read to the press after France's weekly Cabinet meeting Tuesday, presided over by President Francois Mitterrand, expressed the government's "worry and emotion" over the continued violence and loss of life in the Israel-administered territories.

The statement said convening an international peace conference "was now more urgent than ever before." Government spokesman Andre Rossinot stressed that this view was shared by both Mitterrand, a Socialist, and the conservative Chirac.

Sources here said Wednesday that the French ambassadors in Washington and London will urge the United States and Britain to support convening an international peace conference at the earliest moment, with the participation of the five permanent members of the United Nations Security Council and all "the concerned parties."

At the same time, the central body of French Jewish organizations, CRIF, which represents the country's 600,000 Jews, called on Israel to open "a real dialogue for peace." It deplored "the loss of life" in the recent violence in the territories.

Chirac's response to the Arab envoys who visited him was reported to the press by Boujon de l'Estaing. He said the premier told them that France is in contact with its European Economic Community partners for a possible joint statement on the situation in the territories.

ISRAEL, EEC SIGN TRADE PACT ON AGRICULTURAL EXPORTS

By Yossi Lempkowitz

BRUSSELS, Dec. 15 (JTA) -- Israel and the European Economic Community, after a long delay, signed a new trade protocol here Tuesday that will give Israeli agricultural exports certain tariff advantages in the European market.

But Israel had to make important concessions to win the agreement, changing the way produce from the West Bank and Gaza Strip are marketed in Europe.

The protocol was signed by Avi Primor, Israel's ambassador to Belgium and the EEC, and by the permanent representatives of the 12 EEC member states. It must be ratified by the Parliament of Europe in Strasbourg, a formality not expected to take place before the end of the year.

The agreement affects mainly Israeli fruits, vegetables and fresh-cut flowers, which are popular on the continent during the winter season. It revises the original 1975 EEC-Israel trade accord in consideration of the entry of Spain and Portugal into the European Common Market in 1986. Spain, in particular, competes with Israel in agricultural exports, notably citrus fruits.

Although the protocol was initialed last year, final agreement was held up because Britain and Greece unofficially linked their approval to the separate issue of Palestinian agricultural exports to the EEC.

For a time, this threatened a breach between Israel and its European trading partners. Claude Cheysson, the EEC commissioner in charge of Mediterranean policy, in fact warned Israel several times that a crisis would occur if it refused to allow direct Palestinian exports to Europe.

Israel, which protested what it saw as an unfair linkage between the Palestinian issue and trade, insisted that all Palestinian exports from the territories it administers be channeled through the Israel state marketing companies, Agrexco and the Citrus Marketing Board.

In the end, however, Israel backed down. The new trade protocol provides that farmers in the West Bank and Gaza Strip would have the option to export their produce to European customers directly. Israel also agreed that those exports would be labeled according to the place of origin instead of under the Israeli "Carmel" brand name.

France, Holland and Britain have offered to help the Palestinians set up export agencies to take advantage of the new arrangement.

U.S. MOVES ANN POLLARD TO MAYO FOR TREATMENT OF STOMACH DISORDER

By Howard Rosenberg

WASHINGTON, Dec. 16 (JTA) -- Anne Henderson Pollard, the wife of convicted spy for Israel Jonathan Jay Pollard, has been transferred from prison to the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minn.

Kathryn Morse, spokesperson for the Federal Bureau of Prisons, said Anne Pollard was moved Dec. 11 from the Federal Correctional Institution in Lexington, Ky., for treatment at the clinic of stomach disorders.

She suffers from biliary dyskinesia, a rare and painful gastrointestinal disorder that is difficult to treat.

Morse refused to elaborate on Pollard's condition, but confirmed that Pollard had previously been transferred to Kentucky hospitals for a day at a time. There is no timetable for the stay at the Mayo Clinic, she said.

Anne Pollard is serving a five-year sentence for having served as an "an accessory after the fact to the possession of classified national defense documents." Her husband received a life

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sentence in March for spying on behalf of Israel.

The transfer followed a Dec. 2 letter from three members of Congress to the director of the bureau of prisons, Michael Quinlan, requesting that the 27-year-old Anne Pollard receive specialized medical treatment.

Reps. Charles Schumer (D-N.Y.), William Hughes (D-N.J.) and Bruce Morrison (D-Conn.) noted that since being imprisoned last March, Anne Pollard lost has 60 pounds because at times she was unable to eat or properly digest food.

AID TO ISRAEL, FREE TRADE AREA WON'T SUFFER FROM BUDGET CRUNCH

By Susan Birnbaum

NEW YORK, Dec. 16 (JTA) -- U.S. aid to Israel, as well as the America-Israel Free Trade Area agreement, will not be affected in fiscal year 1988 by the budget package being prepared by Congress, according to Sen. Bob Packwood (R-Ore.).

Packwood appeared with Rep. Charles Schumer (D-N.Y.) Monday night at a general assembly convened by the Jewish Community Relations Council of New York and held at the headquarters of UJA-Federation of Jewish Philanthropies here.

The meeting was organized as a preliminary education seminar for members of the Jewish community concerned with financial difficulties posed by the stock market crash of October 1987 and the resulting pressure in Washington to reduce the federal budget deficit. The discussion was not limited to Jewish issues but covered the entire spectrum.

Because aid to Israel has been specifically earmarked, and exists outside the general foreign aid allocation for other countries, U.S. funding for Israel remains intact, Packwood's communications director, Bob Witeck, told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency.

Witeck said that Israel will receive $3 billion this fiscal year, which began Oct. 1. The breakdown of this funding is $1.8 billion for military assistance and $1.2 billion in economic aid.

Won't Affect Trade Pact

Packwood, a strong supporter of aid to Israel, who is ranking Republican on the Senate Finance Committee, also said the budget-cutting drive will have no impact on the Free Trade Area agreement (FTA) between the United States and Israel, which went into effect in the summer of 1985.

As a matter of fact, he said, the FTA has become a model. The recently concluded free-trade agreement between the United States and Canada would not have been possible without the U.S.-Israel precedent, he said.

However, he and Schumer cautioned that as Congress cuts the budget to reduce the deficit, people may very well question why poverty-stricken countries receive diminished U.S. assistance, while aid to Israel remains untouched.

Both Packwood and Schumer were circumspect about the future. Schumer said the budget is "based on predictions of growth. We're dealing with uncertainties."

Each of them addressed the issues of entitlements, that is, programs for which people are eligible by law, such as Medicare, whose allotments are growing out of control in the budget. They suggest tax increases to replenish needed funds that might well be cut.

David Pollack, JCRC assistant executive director, told JTA that as the federal government cuts funding or adds revenue, many issues of Jewish interest will be impacted.

"As budgets get cut, these kinds of things get balanced against aid to the homeless, to citizens who need affordable housing, all those kind of things. The question," he said, is "are we going to have a compassionate society and will the federal government return to the role of provider of affordable housing in light of a declining budget?"

Pollack said that in New York, there are "Jewish members of the community who have moderate incomes and are not homeless, but nevertheless cannot afford condominiums. I think that we have a concern that there is housing for people who cannot afford anything."

SOVIET OFFICIAL BLASTS CANADIAN M.P.s FOR HUMAN RIGHTS HEARINGS

By Michael Solomon

OTTAWA, Dec. 16 (JTA) -- A ranking Soviet diplomat claimed before the Parliamentary Human Rights Committee here Tuesday that the figure of 400,000 Soviet Jews seeking exit visas was fictitious.

Alexei Makarov, minister counsellor at the Soviet Embassy, who appeared before the committee apparently of his own volition, chided the M.P.s for alleged anti-Soviet bias. The committee has been hearing testimony for more than six months on human rights in the Soviet-bloc countries.

It has heard mostly from Jewish and other religious groups, emigre organizations and Baltic nationalists. Makarov, who is second in command at the Soviet Embassy, called the hearings a daily parade of anti-Soviet bias from people who use "Cold War cave language" to smear the Soviet Union.

Saying he was "appalled at the biased approach," he disputed the claim by Jewish groups before the committee that Soviet Jews are not allowed to leave the country and are denied the right to practice their religion.

He held up a list which he claimed refuted the charge that some 400,000 Jews want to emigrate. He said the "so-called refuseniks" number "closer to 1,000" and "all of them could be accommodated comfortably in this hall," a reference to the committee room on Parliament Hill.

Makarov said that only 220 Soviet citizens have been refused exit visas on state security grounds. He added that the new era of glasnost (openness) provides an opportunity to improve East-West relations.

ISRAEL PRIZE TO TWO SCHOLARS

JERUSALEM, Dec. 16 (JTA) -- The 1987 Israel Prize for Jewish studies has been awarded to two Israeli scholars, Rabbi Adin Steinzalz and Professor Moshe Goshen-Gottstein, Education Minister Yitzhak Navon announced Tuesday.

The presentations will be made here next April 22, Israeli Independence Day.

Steinzalz, 50, was selected for his monumental work on the Babylonian Talmud. Nineteen volumes of his annotated text and commentaries have been published so far.

Goshen-Gottstein, 62, will receive the prize for his biblical scholarship, translations and commentaries and his study of the development of Hebrew and other Semitic languages.

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SOUTH AFRICAN JEWS CRITICAL OF ISRAEL FOR IMPOSING SANCTIONS ON PRETORIA REGIME

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Sept. 17 (JTA) -- The Inner Cabinet's decision Wednesday to impose far-reaching sanctions against South Africa affecting almost every aspect of Israel's relations with that country has drawn sharp criticism from South Africa's Jewish community.

But it is "within the acceptable framework of differences of opinion between us," Foreign Minister Shimon Peres told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency in a special Rosh Hashanah eve interview Thursday.

The concerns and interests of South African Jewry "certainly were" taken into consideration during the Inner Cabinet's deliberations, Peres said. "The Jewish consideration caused us to weigh our decisions very, very carefully."

According to reports reaching here Thursday, the South African Board of Jewish Deputies and the Zionist Federation issued statements deploring the Israeli decision and asserting it would not promote the creation of a just society in South Africa.

The Inner Cabinet, the government's top policy-making body, is composed of five Labor and five Likud Ministers. But Wednesday's unanimous decision was adopted by the six Ministers present. Three Likud Ministers are absent abroad, including Ariel Sharon who is known to be opposed to tougher measures against South Africa.

In addition to the sanctions, the Inner Cabinet resolved that the government will help establish a special fund for assistance in educational and cultural projects for South African Black and Colored students studying in Israel.

The measures adopted are much more severe than Israel had previously taken against the apartheid regime in Pretoria. They bring Israel into line with most European countries in the matter of sanctions but are less tough than those imposed or recommended by the U.S. government and by many Third World states. Israel's military relations with South Africa are not affected nor are regular trading ties.

Last year Israel imported about $181.1 million of goods from South Africa, mostly coal, and exported about $54.8 million in products. Officials here stressed that was a relatively low level of trade. The figures do not include military items.

Measures By The Inner Cabinet

The Inner Cabinet decided on the following measures:

* No new investments in South Africa will be approved by the government. Exceptions may be appealed to a special committee.

* No government loans or sale of oil to South Africa.

* The purchase of Krugerrands will be forbidden.

* Import of iron and steel from South Africa will be frozen at present levels.

* All official cultural links with South Africa will cease.

* Sports relations with South Africa will be severed. Israel will act in this matter in accordance with the guidelines of international sporting bodies.

* No official promotion of tourism to South Africa.

* No scientific agreements will be signed between the two countries.

* No government officials will visit South Africa. Exceptions may be approved by a special Foreign Ministry committee.

* The government will take all steps necessary to avoid Israel serving as a staging point for the transfer to South Africa of goods and services boycotted by third parties.

THOUSANDS DEMONSTRATE AGAINST LE PEN

By Edwin Eytan

PARIS, Sept. 17 (JTA) -- Thousands of people demonstrated here Thursday demanding that Parliament lift the immunity of rightwing leader Jean Marie Le Pen so that he can be tried for inciting racial hatred and defending Nazi war crimes.

The demonstrators were protesting Le Pen's public statement last Sunday doubting the existence of Nazi gas chambers and the reality of the Holocaust. Le Pen also downgraded the massacre of millions of Jews during the second World War as "a minor historical detail."

Among the approximately 5,000 people who marched Thursday evening in front of the National Assembly were two former Socialist Premiers, Pierre Mauroy and Laurent Fabius, and dozens of prominent writers and philosophers, mainly Jews. Some of the organizers privately expressed disappointment over the turnout, which they expected to be larger.

Political observers said that the center-right parties, led by Premier Jacques Chirac and Raymond Barre, are in a quandary with Presidential elections due next spring. An energetic condemnation of Le Pen might cost them the votes of some of his supporters. Le Pen's National Front won 34 seats in last year's Parliamentary elections. According to public opinion polls it still enjoys the support of some 10 percent of the electorate.

Chirac and Barre have not yet reacted to Le Pen's statements about the Holocaust.

Six organizations representing former deportees and resistance fighters announced Thursday they will sue Le Pen for civil damages. Parliamentary immunity does not protect him from civil suits.

WIDENING EDUCATION GAP BETWEEN ASHKENAZIM AND SEPHARDIM

TEL AVIV, Sept. 17 (JTA) -- The education gap between Ashkenazic and Sephardic Jews in Israel has widened in recent years and Sephardim even lag behind Israeli Arabs in academic degrees, according to a survey by Dr. Yaakov Nahon of the Jerusalem Institute for Israel Studies, published Wednesday.

Nahon found that only 6.1 percent of Sephardic Jews between the ages of 30-35 have attended institutions of higher learning compared to 28.3 percent of Ashkenazic Jews in the same age bracket. Among young Arabs, 8.8 percent hold bachelor degrees as opposed to 6.1 percent of Sephardic Jews. According to Nahon the gap is narrower for the older generation, where 2.7 percent of Sephardim had an academic background compared to 10.7 percent of Ashkenazim.

* * *

REMINDER: There will be no Daily News Bulletin dated September 24 and 25, the 1st and 2nd days of Rosh Hashanah.

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BREAKING WITH TRADITION AJCONGRESS URGES U.S. JEWS TO PARTICIPATE IN ISRAEL'S DEBATE ON HOW TO ACHIEVE MIDEAST PEACE

By William Saphire

NEW YORK, Sept. 22 (JTA) -- The American Jewish Congress released a policy statement late Monday endorsing an international conference for Middle East peace to serve as the framework for direct Israeli-Arab negotiations.

The matter has split Israel's unity coalition government along party lines: Labor favors the conference scenario, Likud is adamantly opposed. The AJCongress statement clearly favors the position of Foreign Minister Shimon Peres, the Labor Party leader.

It acknowledged in its statement that by so doing the organization "broke tradition under which American Jewish organizations have refrained from speaking out on issues affecting the peace process."

The statement, released in the name of AJCongress president Theodore Mann, maintained that because "the government of Israel itself is divided and deadlocked over how to approach the peace process" it was "necessary and appropriate" for American Jews to "participate in the current historic debate."

Peres: Not Disturbed By A Debate

Release of the policy statement apparently was timed to coincide with Peres' visit to New York to attend the 42nd annual session of the United Nations General Assembly. Asked about it at a briefing for Israeli reporters at the UN Tuesday morning, the Israeli Foreign Minister said he thought American Jews had an absolute right to express their opinions about anything but he did not believe the AJCongress statement would change or have any effect on the debate over the issue in Israel.

"American Jews are our partners. I'm not disturbed by a debate within the Jewish people. The debate about an international peace conference is a legitimate debate and I don't see any harm in it," Peres said.

There were no other immediate comments from Israeli sources. But the reactions of other mainstream American Jewish organizations ranged from mildly negative to, in one case, an angry attack on the AJCongress' initiative.

First Policy Statement 'Killed'

The AJCongress appeared to have had second thoughts on the impact of its policy statement. The first text was "killed" after it was released to the press. It was followed by a new text several hours later which, while essentially the same, contained softer language in many instances.

Mann, reached by telephone in Philadelphia Tuesday morning, explained to the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that the first text was a draft that had been put before the AJCongress National Governing Council at a meeting on September 13 but not approved and its release was an error. The second text, he said, was the one endorsed by the Governing Council on the same date.

In its statement, the AJCongress takes the position that an international peace conference "satisfied in sufficient measure Israel's insistence over the past 39 years that peace can be achieved only in direct, face-to-face negotiations."

It said a major consideration in releasing the position paper was the finding of recent demographic studies on Arab population growth. The rise in Arab numbers "is rapidly transforming 'Greater Israel' -- Israel plus the West Bank and Gaza -- into a de facto bi-national state, politically and culturally."

According to the AJCongress, "If no significant political adjustments are made, the demographic imperatives will force Israel to choose by the year 2000 between becoming a non-Jewish state or a non-democratic state." To find a "realistic alternative," the AJCongress supports an international peace conference, if, the statement stressed, there are "reasonable assurances" that "written understandings between Foreign Minister Peres and King Hussein (of Jordan) and the safeguards they contain" will be honored.

The AJCongress said it believes that direct negotiations under an international conference "might bring . . . genuine movement toward peace; the crafting of a consensual set of compromises, both territorial and functional that would remove the stigma and opprobrium suffered by an embattled occupier," and "the relief of Israel and its supporters from the anguish involved in the daunting choice between a non-democratic and a non-Jewish bi-national state."

Concedes There Are 'Risks'

The statement conceded there were "risks" in joining such a conference, such as "having to leave the conference table and suffer condemnation as the party that broke up the conference. But they are not security risks and they do not outweigh the advantages of an international peace conference based on safeguards agreed to by King Hussein . . . .

"These understandings propose that as a prerequisite, all prospective conveners will be obliged to recognize Israel, that it will be made unequivocally clear from the start that the essential purpose of the conference is to legitimize direct negotiations between and among the most interested parties, and that the referral to the conveners of any issue for resolution will require the consent of all parties to the negotiations."

The statement noted that "Israel has made clear that as a prerequisite for participation the Soviet Union will be obliged to restore diplomatic relations and liberalize Jewish emigration."

The AJCongress urged that "achieving these conditions and the subsequent convening of such a conference ought to be energetically pursued." It assailed "Arab intransigence and obdurate refusal to accept the legitimacy of a Jewish state in the area . . . But the fact of that refusal must never become a reason for abandoning or diminishing our pursuit of peace.

"Large numbers of Israelis and American Jews are convinced that there are realistic alternatives to the status quo that would enhance Israel's security and would avoid the demographic and other dangers of continuing an unavoidably

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hostile occupation. A position that calls for maintaining the status quo or annexation of the occupied territories severely hampers the development of such alternatives."

The AJCongress acknowledged that "We offer our view with a sense of modesty appropriate to our awareness that we are remote from accountability should our views prove wrong . . ."

That reality was reflected in a statement issued Monday by Morris Abram, chairman of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations -- of which the AJCongress is a member.

Divergent Views Expressed

Abram said: "There are strongly divergent views about the wisdom and nature of an international peace conference both in Israel and in the United States. The people and government of Israel have the responsibility for the safety of the state and therefore they must make their decision through their democratic process."

Milton Shapiro, president of the Zionist Organization of America, declared that "If the rationale of the American Jewish Congress was followed, there would never have been a Jewish State established in the first place. By contrast, ZOA believes that Israeli policy in such matters is the prerogative of the people of Israel, who are quite capable of making decisions in their own democratic self-interest."

The ZOA, Shapiro said, "rejects the negative and defeatist conclusion of the American Jewish Congress." He noted that "The potential danger for Israel in an international peace conference under present circumstances far outweighs its potential for peace."

Abraham Foxman, national director of the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith, rejected the AJCongress' implicit call on other American Jewish organizations to follow its initiative. "We won't do it. For me the stakes are too high to make a mistake. When and if Israel makes up its mind on how to procced, then we'll deal with whether we support it or not," Foxman said in a statement to the press.

Differences In The Two Texts

The modification of language between the first and second texts released by the AJCongress was apparent in the first paragraph of each. The first text said the organization backed the international peace conference "rejected by Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir." The second text said it supported a compromise solution for the occupied territories and backs the international peace conference "as advocated by Foreign Minister Shimon Peres."

In the first version it spoke of American Jewish organizations' reticence "on issues affecting Israel's security." That was changed to read "issues affecting the peace process."

Elsewhere, the first text called on American Jews to take part in "the continuing examination of options." In the second text that was changed to "participate in the current historic debate."

A paragraph in the first version which spoke of relieving Israel of the "choice between a non-democratic repressive state and a non-Jewish binational state" appeared in the second text, but with the word "repressive" eliminated.

Also eliminated from the second text was a paragraph which stated, "We regret that the development of such alternatives has been severely hampered by those who reject all compromise and seem immutably dedicated to the annexation of the occupied territories, no matter the risk to a democratic Israel or a viable Jewish state."

In releasing what he termed "this unprecedented policy statement" Mann described it as the product of a "careful, deliberate and responsible process." He said an 18-member AJCongress task force visited Israel in early July and during a week-long period held "intensive discussions on the subject with Israeli government officials, academics and foreign policy and defense experts representing the entire range of Israeli opinion."

MOVE TO STEM DRUG ABUSE
By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Sept. 22 (JTA) -- The Education Ministry and the police have joined forces to combat one of the most urgent problems confronting Israeli society -- the prevention of drug abuse by the country's youth.

The Ministry and police announced after a meeting at national police headquarters in Jerusalem the establishment of a joint team to consolidate a comprehensive education and information policy on drug use and to coordinate with the various other authorities dealing with the issue. The meeting was attended by Education Minister Yitzhak Navon and Police Inspector-General David Kraus and their senior aides.

It is estimated that about 15,000 persons in Israel are totally addicted to drugs and between 150-200,000 are one-time, occasional or constant users. Almost all criminal offenders are drug users and criminal acts to finance the purchase of drugs are increasing.

But the main factor that has increased national awareness of the dangers of drug use is the risk of Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS), an invariably fatal condition which can be contracted by the use of contaminated needles to inject drugs.

Drug addicts were described at the meeting as the slaves of the 20th century. The police complained that the courts have been too lenient in the punishment meted out to drug offenders, thereby weakening the deterrent factor. The police charged there is insufficient cooperation between school principals and law enforcement authorities in the prevention of drug use and treatment for users.

* * *

STRASBOURG (JTA) -- The European Parliament, acting on a motion by French Deputy Simone Veil, has asked the European Economic Community (EEC) to intervene with the Syrian government to obtain information about four missing Israeli soldiers, believed held captive by Syrian forces or by militia under Syrian control. The soldiers were captured near Sidon and in the Syrian-occupied Bekaa Valley in eastern Lebanon over a four-year period.

* * *

TEL AVIV (JTA) -- More than 150,000 public service employees ended a two-day work stoppage Tuesday morning following a late-night compromise on a wages and other demands worked out between Histadrut and the Finance Ministry. Both sides backed away from their original demands.

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THE JEWS OF ARGENTINA:
NOT STRANGERS IN THE LAND
By Aviva Cantor
(Part Two In A Series)

BUENOS AIRES, Sept. 22 (JTA) -- "The Mexicans came from the Aztecs, the Peruvians came from the Incas -- and the Argentineans came from the boats." This popular saying among Argentineans summarizes the reality of the immigrant ancestry of the vast number of the current population of 28 million, of which one percent are Jews.

Of the estimated 250,000 Jews in Argentina-- "we have no statistics," is a phrase often heard in the country -- about 230,000 are concentrated in the capital city of Buenos Aires, home to about one-third of Argentina's citizens.

The second largest Jewish communities, Cordoba and Rosario, each has 10,000 Jews, followed by Tucuman, with 4,000; Mendoza with 2,000; and Mar del Plata and Salta, with 1,000 each. The rest are scattered, many of them in the towns near where the Jewish agricultural colonies established by Baron de Hirsch in the 1880's flourished until the mid-1920's.

"The history of the community is secular and leftist," said Joshua Flidel, director of ORT in Latin America, at a meeting with a delegation of North American journalists and communal leaders who recently visited the country.

Jewish immigrants were active in the Socialist, Anarchist and liberal movements of the early part of the 20th century. The grandparents of WIZO president Amalia Polack who settled in Rosario were among the founders of both the Socialist and the Radical Party. Moses Levinson was an important philosopher and leader in the old Radical Civic Union party in the 1940's and 1950's.

Many immigrants were fervent Zionists who saw the country "as only a stepping stone" to Palestine, Polack told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency. "Jews who came here chose Zionism in place of religion," added Alberto Senderey, executive director of the Hebraica Community Center. "Part of that mythology is to make aliya."

Relationship With Israel

Argentine Jewry's relationship with Israel is primarily cultural, philanthropic and sentimental. In Cordoba, for example, the Jewish community took great pride in the fact that the city dedicated an "Israel Plaza" with a large menorah in the middle of it in May. Aliya runs about 1,000 a year, according to Israeli Ambassador Efraim Tari.

Activities in support of Israel are the main agenda of B'nai B'rith, with 800 members, 80 percent of them in Buenos Aires, and WIZO. Founded in Argentina in 1926, WIZO has about 20,000 members, many of them in the smaller cities -- "we have some chapters with three people," Polack told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency. Though primarily involved with its 12 projects in Israel, WIZO also participates in philanthropic endeavors to help poor Argentineans.

Possibly the most quintessentially Argentine Jewish institution is the Hebraica Community Center. Located in a 14-story building in the middle of town a short walk from the charming Claridge Hotel where members of the North American delegation stayed, the Hebraica is open and jumping with activities for 3,000 people from 7 a.m. to 1 a.m. The Hebraica, said Senderey, was founded by free-thinkers. Begun 60 years ago, its by-laws forbad the introduction of politics (by which they meant Zionism) and religion. The politics clause was repealed; the religion clause was not.

"The thrust is secular and pluralistic," said Hebraica president Mario Trumper. Every Jewish holiday is celebrated, and the center is open for activities on the Sabbath. Senderey sees the Hebraica as a kind of cultural "supermarket" where people who "want to connect with Judaism come for a day-to-day experience which covers the whole span of life."

The center gears itself to serve three prime constituencies: the 2-12-year-old group, teenagers, and adults. Its feast of cultural activities for its 20,000 dues-paying members (and anyone else who wishes to attend them at nominal cost) ranges from films, to theater, a choir, lectures and forums, an open university for adults taught by professors at Argentine universities, and a 40,000-volume library. The cultural exhibits in the lobby travel to municipalities, schools and other non-Jewish institutions.

Hebraica places most of its efforts on Jews in their teens "when most of Jewish identity is formed," said Senderey. In addition to its Amos High School, it runs groups for teenagers led by college-age madrichim (counselors) trained by Hebraica, one for every 20 youths, and a supplementary two-afternoon-a-week school for children in non-Jewish primary schools. At 17, the young people spend two months in Israel's Carmiel, where each pupil is "adopted" by a local family.

A Major Success Story

The Hebraica -- which belongs to the Maccabi network of 60 community centers in Argentina -- also has a country club of 350 acres about a half-hour drive from town. Some 500 families own chalets and condos there, with a dormitory for the 300 non-residents who stay over for entire weekends. Between 3-4,000 people, including groups of teenagers, travel there on Saturdays and Sundays to take part in a variety of cultural and sports activities.

"When the community club trend started in Argentina 12 years ago, we had to react or Jews would join the non-Jewish clubs," said Senderey. The country club attracts couples with children who want their offspring to participate in Jewish activities and to meet other young Jews.

There is no synagogue or other religious activity at the club because the Hebraica respects the secular character of its members and does not want to confront the problem of what religious movement to give space to, said Trumper. It welcomes mixed couples who "understand that when they choose to come here they are making a decision on the education of their children."

Taking Public Stands

Hebraica leaders believe that addressing all the problems of Argentina and of the world in the free atmosphere of their forums and taking strong stands in support of human rights and against anti-Semitism has a strong educational impact upon the youth.

They pointed to the fact that when Msgr. Antonio Plaza, the former Archbishop of La Plata, charged in March 1987 that "the government is full of Jews" (who) "made us squander three years discussing (human rights) . . . " the Hebraica took out a newspaper ad calling Plaza "one of the originators of Argentine fascism." The next day, said Trumper, President Alfonsin used the same

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arguments in a speech. A second example was the action of the Hebraica in March 1986, when the Peronist CGT (General Confederation of Labor) union leader Saul Ubaldini responded at a televised rally to a shout of "Jews sons of whores" by saying that "there are black sheep in every group." The Hebraica -- as well as B'nai B'rith-- took out a strong ad in the newspapers.

Hebraica also took out a newspaper ad when there was a bomb in the center's theater seven years ago during the reign of the junta.

"If you want to teach our children to be proud Jews, we have to (take such actions) without fear," Senderey told the North American delegation.

(Tomorrow: Part Three)

PERES HOLDS TALKS WITH SHULTZ

By Yitzhak Rabi

UNITED NATIONS, Sept. 22 (JTA) -- Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres said Tuesday that the improved relations between Moscow and Washington would contribute to efforts to achieve peace in the Middle East.

He said that was the impression he gained in a 20-minute talk with Secretary of State George Shultz Tuesday morning. "The next few months are very critical to the relations between the two superpowers and the progress in their discussions will affect the chances for peace in the Middle East," Peres said in a briefing for Israeli reporters here.

He said that Shultz told him at their meeting at the United Nations Plaza Hotel that when he (Shultz) met with Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze, their conversation dealt with, among other things, the issue of human rights in the USSR, and the peace process in the Middle East.

"I also know that the Arabs are in contact with the Russians about the peace process. I don't think that the peace process in the Middle East is a dead issue," Peres said.

'Gradual Progress' In Israel-USSR Relations

The Israeli Foreign Minister, who is scheduled to meet with Shevardnadze Wednesday morning, said that in his opinion there has been "a gradual progress" in relations between Israel and the Soviet Union.

"We would like them to be more forthcoming, but one cannot deny the fact that many changes have taken place," Peres told the Israeli reporters. He noted that all Prisoners of Zion have been released by the Soviet authorities, many Jews have been receiving exit visas and a Soviet consular delegation has come to Israel after many years of frozen relations between the two countries.

Peres reiterated his belief that an international peace conference is the best way to achieve direct negotiations between the parties in the Middle East. "I'm convinced that you can't conduct negotiations for peace without the Arabs and you can't bring the Arabs to the negotiating table without an international conference," Peres said.

Peres also met Tuesday with British Foreign Secretary Geoffrey Howe for discussions of Middle East peace prospects and recent developments in the Persian Gulf. A spokesman for Peres told reporters later that they discussed the position of the Soviet Union and reports that the Kremlin has been showing new openness regarding the Middle East peace process.

Howe told Peres that Britain was concerned about a stalemate in the Middle East, the spokesman said.

Peres Invited To Visit Brazil

In addition to Howe, Peres met Tuesday with Foreign Minister Abreu Sobre of Brazil. They discussed bilateral relations and improved economic ties between their countries. Sobre invited Peres to visit Brazil. He accepted and may go there later this year. Peres reciprocated the invitation which the Brazilian Foreign Minister accepted but no date was set for his visit to Israel.

Peres met Tuesday afternoon with the Foreign Minister of Panama, Uffe Ellemann Jensen, and The Netherlands Foreign Minister, Hans Van Den Brock. He was scheduled to meet Tuesday evening with the Foreign Minister of Poland, Mariar Otzechowski.

REAGAN'S ROSH HASHANAH MESSAGE

WASHINGTON, Sept. 22 (JTA) -- President Reagan expressed a prayer for world peace as he issued his Rosh Hashanah greetings to Jews. The President's message in full:

"Each year at this time, the Jewish community prepares for the High Holy Days -- Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur. This period of deep reflection is marked by prayer, repentance, and the giving of charity.

"These Days of Awe begin and end with the blowing of the shofar, the ram's horn, whose blasts fill the heart and the mind with their many meanings. The shofar was sounded as Moses ascended Mt. Sinai to receive from the Lord the tablets containing the Ten Commandments, the moral foundation stones of Western civilization.

"It was heard again as the Children of Israel entered the Promised Land. And the sound of the shofar and the shout of the people brought down the walls of Jericho.

"As Jews the world over come together as one to pray for forgiveness and the blessings of the Almighty in the year to come, Nancy and I join in those prayers for a world of peace.

"We hope that the great values upon which Judaism is based will be more fully reflected in all of our lives and that we will move closer to that day when 'Nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall men learn war anymore.'

"We are pleased to extend our best wishes to all Jewish people in the United States, in Israel, and around the globe as you celebrate the beginning of the year 5748. L'Shanah Tova, may you be inscribed in the Book of Life for a happy and healthy year."

* * *

NEW YORK (JTA) -- Olga Goldfarb, daughter of freed dissident Prof. David Goldfarb, is scheduled to arrive in New York from Moscow on Wednesday, according to the National Conference on Soviet Jewry. This will be her second visit to her ailing father. She is expected to arrive with her daughter, Nadia, 5, and stay for two weeks. Her emigration application is pending.

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NEW MIDEAST PEACE PROPOSALS APPEAR TO HAVE JORDAN'S SUPPORT

By Gil Sedan and Hugh Orgel

JERUSALEM, Oct. 22 (JTA) -- Wide differences over procedure continue to bedevil the Middle East peace process, according to media reports here and abroad Thursday.

There are also contradictory accounts of what, if any, new ideas U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz conveyed to King Hussein of Jordan when they met in London this week, immediately following Shultz's three-day visit to Israel.

An international peace conference appears to be in limbo for the time being, owing largely to the unbending opposition of Premier Yitzhak Shamir. Instead, the Israeli media reported this week, a proposal was made to Hussein for bilateral negotiations between Israel and Jordan to be sponsored jointly by the two superpowers -- the United States and the Soviet Union.

Al Hamishmar reported Thursday that Hussein apparently has not completely rejected the idea and agreed to have Shultz discuss it with Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze, with whom he is meeting in Moscow Thursday and Friday.

But, according to the report, Hussein will insist that the two superpowers have equal weight and that their sponsorship serve as the framework for bilateral Israeli-Jordanian talks, not simply a formality.

Political observers here pointed out that even if Hussein were prepared to settle for a U.S.-Soviet "umbrella" as a substitute for an international conference, there is a large gap between his and Shamir's views on the role of the superpowers and the role of the Soviet Union relative to that of the United States.

Maariv quoted political sources in Cairo as saying that the Jordanian ruler insists on convening an international conference in a form acceptable to the Arabs and the Soviet Union.

Hussein Meets With Soviet

Following his talk with Shultz in London, Hussein reportedly met with a high-ranking Soviet official, apparently the deputy foreign minister, Yuri Vorontsov, and assured him that Jordan supports Moscow's position on everything connected with the peace process in the Middle East.

The king is also reported to have told the Soviet official that the gap has widened between himself and the American administration on the Middle East.

The Jerusalem Post reported Thursday that Hussein told Shultz that he (Hussein) would react to new proposals only after the Arab summit meeting in Amman Nov. 8.

Although Haaretz reported earlier this week that Shamir and Foreign Minister Shimon Peres were in agreement on superpower sponsorship of Israel-Jordan talks, and even hinted that the idea may have come from Shamir, the prime minister's aides reiterated Thursday that he was firmly opposed to both an international conference and negotiations under Soviet-American auspices.

Meanwhile, a report from Helsinki, where Shultz stopped over Wednesday before going to Moscow, described the secretary of state as deeply frustrated that the emphasis now is not on the substance of a Middle East peace settlement but on how to get the Israelis and Arabs together at a mutually acceptable forum.

JEWISH AGENCY BOARD OF GOVERNORS EXPECTED TO ELECT SOUTH AFRICAN

By J.J. Goldberg
New York Jewish Week

NEW YORK, Oct. 22 (JTA) -- A wealthy South African Jewish businessman was expected to be chosen Thursday night for the highest position in international Jewish philanthropy -- the chairmanship of the board of governors of the Jewish Agency.

The controversial selection was decided by an eight-member nominating committee in a closed meeting here on the eve of Sukkot, and is expected to confirmed by the full board meeting now in Jerusalem.

The move came after a months-long tug-of-war between Israel's political establishment and the leadership of Jewish philanthropics worldwide over the choice of new leaders for the trouble-laden Jewish Agency. Diaspora leaders have become increasingly strident in their criticism of how the Jewish Agency administers its social service programs in Israel.

The candidacy of the South African, Mendel Kaplan of Johannesburg, had been greeted with discomfort by both Israelis and Americans in the Jewish Agency's leadership.

"It just wouldn't look very good these days to have the Jewish Agency run out of Johannesburg," said one high-ranking leader in the U.S. Jewish federation community, who asked not to be identified.

The Israelis, however, were reluctant to exercise their right of veto, fearing a diaspora backlash against the unpopular Israeli candidate for a parallel post -- chairmanship of the Jewish Agency Executive.

According to Jewish Agency power-sharing rules, the chairman of the executive is filled by the World Zionist Organization, and the chairman of the board of governors is filled by the philanthropies -- with the "advice and consent" of the other.

Both incumbents, executive committee chairman Leon (Arye) Dulzin of Jerusalem and governing board chairman Jerold Hoffberger of Baltimore, are about to step down.

Kaplan has been promoting himself as Hoffberger's successor since last winter. His candidacy, which was not taken seriously by federation leaders in this country until weeks ago, had the solid backing of philanthropists outside the United States who demanded a turn at chairing the board.

The board chairmanship had been in U.S. hands since the board's founding in the 1971 Jewish Agency reconstitution.

According to informed sources, Kaplan claimed he had the backing of Israeli Premier Yitzhak Shamir and Foreign Minister Shimon Peres. Aides to Peres, however, said he was concerned at the diplomatic implications for Israel

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of having a South African in the highly visible post. An energetic, globe-trotting fund raiser who has served as chairman of the worldwide Keren Hayesod and treasurer of the World Jewish Congress, Kaplan's own political views were not at issue -- although some liberal South African Jews claimed he "travels with the kind of people" identified with the ruling National Party, which instituted the apartheid system in 1949.

Most American philanthropic leaders interviewed echoed the view of nominating committee member Henry Taub of New Jersey, chairman of the United Israel Appeal, who called Kaplan "a liberal in the Jewish tradition" who has "at great risk expressed his well-documented opposition to apartheid."

Chicagoan Was Primary Opponent

Kaplan's primary opponent was Chicago businessman Raymond Epstein, chairman of the Jewish Agency's budget and finance committee and a former chairman of the Council of Jewish Federations in North America.

It appeared, however, that the five Americans on the nominating committee -- including the top lay leaders of the national United Jewish Appeal, the United Israel Appeal and the Council of Jewish Federations -- deferred to the strong feelings of delegates from Australia, Canada and France.

The 74-member board of governors is evenly divided between representatives of Zionist and philanthropic concerns -- 22 of whom are Americans named by Jewish federations.

Meanwhile, the WZO leaders in the Jewish Agency were speaking out firmly against Kaplan's candidacy in the days preceding the board meeting.

"American Jewry is the largest community in the diaspora, and it's important that the chairman's job go to an American," said Dulzin in a recent interview.

That view was echoed by the agency's number-two Israeli, treasurer Akiva Lewinsky, who added that the agency would be in a delicate position if Israeli-South African relations deteriorated.

Would Not Recommend Vote

Lewinsky conceded in an interview that he would not recommend the Israelis exercise a veto against Kaplan, largely because it might backfire against Lewinsky himself.

A kibbutz member and former managing director of Bank Hapoalim, Lewinsky is the leading candidate to succeed Dulzin as chairman of the executive. He was nominated last spring by the Israel Labor Party.

His nomination has touched off protests from a number of U.S. philanthropists who fear he is too much a part of the system they are seeking to change.

Likud, however, has been unable to provide an opponent.

Thus, it is possible that Lewinsky could be elected at the Jewish Agency congress by acclaim -- only to face a possible veto from diaspora philanthropists.

The choice of Kaplan as board chairman appeared intended to forestall that eventuality, in part because he spends half of each year in Jerusalem and could serve as the philanthropists' "eyes and ears" in agency management, U.S. philanthropic sources said.

TEL AVIV STOCK MARKET UP
By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Oct. 22 (JTA) -- The Tel Aviv Stock Exchange bounced back again Thursday in brisk trading, recovering 5-7 percent of the 18-20 percent it lost in share prices this week. But observers said it was still too early to forecast how the exchange would behave in the coming days.

The Bank of Israel reported that conversion to cash orders for some 66 percent of the commercial bank shares which had been frozen totalled 1.4 billion shekels ($875 million) out of 2 billion shekels ($1.25 billion) held by the public. The funds will be deposited in the investors' accounts on Oct. 30.

Capital markets commissioner Yehuda Drori said he expected no dramatic effects on the economy from the large amounts of cash that will be injected by the end of the month with the share payments.

He estimated that half of the sums cashed in will be deposited almost immediately in savings plans or be invested. The balance would not necessarily be used to finance consumption, he added.

Dan Halperin, formerly Israel's economic affairs minister in Washington, wrote in Maariv Wednesday that since the U.S. government's fiscal year is just beginning, the Wall Street decline will have no effect on U.S. aid to Israel.

It is reasonable to assume, however, that the ability of Jewish philanthropists to fulfill their donation pledges will be affected, since most of them have a great deal of their money invested in the stock market, he wrote.

Yediot Aharonot quoted Deputy Finance Minister Adiel Amorai as saying that the entire $1.2 billion in U.S. non-military aid for this year will be transferred to Israel in another 10 days, and will not be affected by the American financial crisis.

The aid money will put Israel's foreign currency reserves at some $5.7 billion, the largest sum in years, and Israel is likely to consider early repayment of debts to the United States, especially those with high interest and less desirable terms.

ARGENTINE PRIEST CRITICIZED

BUENOS AIRES, Oct. 22 (JTA) -- An American Jewish leader urged the Vatican's representative here Wednesday to publicly condemn a blatantly anti-Semitic homily delivered by a Roman Catholic priest in Cordoba Oct. 4, and expressed concern that the Vatican has not yet spoken out.

Seymour Reich, international president of B'nai B'rith, raised the issue at a meeting with the Papal Nuncio, Msgr. Ubaldo Calabresi. He was referring to the monthly Mass honoring "victims of subversion" at which Father Manuel Beltran denounced the "bad Jews" who "surround" the government of President Raul Alfonsin and suggested that the Protocols of the Elders of Zion was a document worth reflecting on.

If only because democracy is still so fragile in Argentina, it is important that the church's reaction to anti-Semitic remarks by an Argentine priest be made public, Reich told Calabresi. Calabresi replied that he had informed Beltran that he was wrong but made no public statement because the incident was an isolated one.

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Beltran's audience consisted largely of right-wing military officers who oppose the Alfonsin government because of its efforts to bring to justice military officers who participated in murder and atrocities when the junta ruled Argentina. The priest differentiated between "bad" and "good" Jews -- the latter being, according to him, those who stay out of public affairs.

He blamed Jews for Argentina's economic and social problems, from divorce to pornography. He recalled that when he was young, he had read the Protocols of the Elders of Zion and said of the notorious anti-Semitic forgery: "I don't know what is its value, but one should think about what is said there."

U.S. ENVOY ENDS CONTROVERSIAL TOUR OF DUTY IN AUSTRIA

By Reinhard Engel

VIENNA, Oct. 22 (JTA) -- United States Ambassador Ronald Lauder formally ended a relatively brief tour of duty here Thursday. It lasted only 19 months, during which he incurred the anger of conservative Austrians for pointedly distancing himself from President Kurt Waldheim, but gained the respect and affection of Austrian Jewry.

Lauder, who is Jewish and is the son of Estee Lauder, head of a worldwide cosmetics business, made his last call at the Foreign Ministry to bid official farewell to Foreign Minister and Vice Chancellor Alois Mock and Secretary General Thomas Klestil. He stressed that good bilateral relations are still developing between Austria and the United States, despite some recent troubles.

Mock heads the conservative People's Party which sponsored Waldheim's candidacy for the office of president in the summer of 1986. It was during that campaign that Jewish groups, led by the World Jewish Congress, exposed Waldheim's involvement in Nazi atrocities when he served as an intelligence officer in the German army in the Balkans during World War II -- an episode that Waldheim had concealed for 40 years, including his two terms as United Nations secretary general.

Waldheim nevertheless won a landslide victory. Revelations of his Nazi associations made him something of a diplomatic pariah. The U.S. Department of Justice placed him on the "watch list" of foreigners inadmissable to the United States. Lauder managed to be absent from the country for Waldheim's inauguration and later had contact with the president on only the most formal occasions.

A Strain On Austrian Relations

The situation put a severe strain on Austria's relations with the Reagan administration which, paradoxically, had preferred a conservative head of state in Austria to a socialist.

On Monday evening, the Vienna Jewish community held a farewell reception for Lauder. He was presented with a gold medal bearing the motto "For the fighters for justice, reconciliation, for peoples and human dignity."

Paul Grosz, president of the Jewish community, who spoke on the occasion, said Lauder had given Austrian Jews more than could have been expected from a foreign envoy. "In an admirable mixture of vision and practical devotion, he showed a deep interest in the Jewish community," Grosz said.

He thanked Lauder for his personal contributions to Jewish projects in Vienna, such as funding a school for Jewish immigrant children from the Soviet Union, for financial help for a religious and cultural center for Soviet Jews and for student exchange programs in collaboration with B'nai B'rith.

Grosz also noted that Lauder recently established a "Foundation for the Preservation and Promotion of Jewish and Minority Cultures in Europe." The foundation will grant funds to Jewish organizations and small communities to support clubs and groups fighting anti-Semitism.

Lauder is expected to be succeeded as ambassador by Vienna-born Henry Anatol Grunwald, who is also Jewish and has just stepped down as publisher of the Time-Life Corp.

NETANYAHU PRESSES SECRETARY GENERAL ON ACCESS TO WAR CRIMES ARCHIVES

By Yitzhak Rabi

UNITED NATIONS, Oct. 22 (JTA) -- U.N. Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar promised Binyamin Netanyahu, Israel's ambassador to the United Nations, that he will announce his final position on opening the files of Nazi war criminals at the U.N. archives in Manhattan at the beginning of next month.

The secretary general's pledge was made in the course of a half-hour meeting with Netanyahu Wednesday evening. The Israeli envoy requested the meeting with Perez de Cuellar to urge him not to postpone any longer the decision on opening the files.

Representatives of the 17 former members of the commission met with the secretary general here Sept. 22-23 and Oct. 13 to inform him of their governments' positions on opening the files.

The secretary general was expected to announce his decision following those meetings, but instead it was decided that the secretary general and representatives of the former members of the U.N. War Crimes Commission will met again at the United Nations on Oct. 30.

Concern About Delay

Netanyahu reportedly expressed his concern to Perez de Cuellar over the continued delay in reaching a decision on the files. The secretary general reportedly told Netanyahu that a number of governments are still debating the issue.

The issue is whether to grant scholars, historians and researchers access to the dossiers on more than 40,000 accused Nazi war criminals. They are presently accessible only to the governments of U.N. members.

Diplomats at the United Nations told the JTA last week that 16 former members of the long-defunct War Crimes Commission have already expressed support for greater access to the files and that only one country, France, has not yet disclosed its position.

But reliable sources told the JTA Thursday that a number of other governments are now saying that they support a rather limited access to the files by historians, scholars and researchers.

Eyal Arad, the spokesman for Israel's U.N. Mission, said after the meeting between Netanyahu and Perez de Cuellar, "We came out of the meeting hopeful that the secretary general is indeed going to make up his mind soon and announce his decision along the lines requested by Israel."

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COUPLE HONORS RIGHTEOUS CHRISTIANS WHO SAVED THEM

By Susan Rosenbluth

NEW YORK, Oct. 22 (JTA) -- The intricate mystery of what gives some individuals the courage to risk everything to help others came under scrutiny Tuesday when the recently formed Foundation to Sustain Righteous Christians, a project of the International Center for Holocaust Studies of the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith, honored two Polish women who had each saved a Jewish life during the Holocaust.

"Stanislawa Bardzik and Kazimiera Jezienicki would have been righteous people at any time or place, but because they performed their acts of mercy in Poland during the early 1940s, it makes them a thousand times more righteous," said Norman Salsitz, a 67-year-old Jewish Holocaust survivor, originally from Poland, who owes his life to Bardzik.

Salsitz's wife, Mania, 65, also originally from Poland, survived the war because Jezienicki allowed her to pose as a governess for four weeks.

The Salsitzes, who now reside in Springfield, N.J., met and married after the war. They immigrated to the United States in 1947.

In 1942, 22-year-old Norman Salsitz had already survived the destruction of the Jewish community in his hometown of Kolbuszowa, including his parents and five sisters, and had managed to escape from a labor camp.

He joined a group of 125 other young Jewish concentration camp escapees. They found a friend in Bardzik, then a 16-year old schoolgirl, and her parents.

Their eyes sparkling with tears, Salsitz and Bardzik described how grateful the 125 Jews, who were hiding in the woods near the Bardziks' cottage, were for the food, shelter and information the peasant family supplied at tremendous risk to themselves. All knew the penalty for being or assisting a Jew was death.

Bardzik herself was a member of a Polish underground partisan movement, noted for its anti-Semitism. The group, according to Salsitz, was as likely to hunt for Jews as for Nazis. Nevertheless, the young girl smuggled bullets to her Jewish friend when he needed them and kept him and his comrades' whereabouts a secret.

Mania Petranker Salsitz had grown up in an upper-middle-class Jewish family in Stanislawow in southeastern Poland on the Russian border, an area notorious for Ukrainian anti-Semitism. After 1939, the area was occupied by the Russians, and her family barely escaped exile to Siberia. In June 1941, the Nazis appeared.

A petite blonde woman with deep brown eyes, Salsitz recalled that one month after the Nazis' arrival, her 15-year-old sister was taken and the remaining family sent to the ghetto. On Hoshana Raba (the seventh day of Sukkot) that year, her mother was one of 15,000 Jews shot en masse.

Salsitz and her father decided to flee the ghetto together, but they soon became separated, and the 19-year-old girl found herself alone.

Not knowing what else to do, she set out from Krakow, where she knew Michel and Kazimeira Jezienicki, longtime gentile friends of her family, were residing. According to Salsitz, they welcomed her joyfully and vowed to protect her.

Well-to-do, the Jezienickis had no difficulty explaining to their neighbors that the young girl had been employed as their children's new governess. The problem lay in preventing the Polish neighbors from noticing what Salsitz called "my Semitic eyes."

After four weeks, the Jezienickis suggested to Salsitz, who spoke fluent German, that she continue to pose as a Polish Catholic and look for work as a housekeeper for a German family living in Poland.

"They believed I would be safest in the lions' den because there the Polish police couldn't come and check for the identity papers," she explained.

The plan worked, and eventually she survived the war working as a secretary for a German company operating in Poland.

Grateful to the Righteous Christians to whom they owe their lives, the Salsitzes, over the years, have frequently sent packages with needed supplies to many Polish families who saved Jews during the war.

"People ask me, why do you send gifts to people you don't even know? I tell them, I don't have to know. If you helped any Jew, then you also helped me, and we Jews do not forget," said Norman Salsitz, a semi-retired building developer.

Neither Bardzik, who now resides in Warsaw, nor Jezieicki, now a widow but still in Krakow, said they felt they had behaved particularly righteously during the war. Both women, who spoke in Polish translated by Norman Salsitz, stressed that their ethics had been molded by parents who were staunch Catholics dedicated to the true Christian spirit.

"What we did was not a big deal," said Bardzik. "Everyone who needs help should be helped. Everyone wants to live, and we wanted everyone to survive with us."

ETHIOPIAN DENIES PERES' REQUEST FOR JEWISH EMIGRATION

JERUSALEM, Oct. 22 (JTA) -- Ethiopia has reacted negatively to a request by Foreign Minister Shimon Peres to allow the emigration of 15,000 Jews still living there.

Peres told the Conference on the Demography of the Jewish People here Wednesday that he made the request in a meeting last month in New York with his Ethiopian counterpart, Berhanu Bayih. "But the minister reacted negatively," said Peres. "He argued that if the Jews were permitted to leave, the Moslems and the Christians would ask to do so."

But Peres added that the minister conceded that Christians and Moslems had not asked to leave the country.

LE PEN BANNED FROM GENEVA

By Tamar Levy

GENEVA, Oct. 22 (JTA) -- The authorities of the canton of Geneva have banned Jean-Marie Le Pen, the president of the rightist French National Front Party, from fulfilling a speaking engagement on Nov. 26. Le Pen was expected to speak at a dinner given at the Hotel Intercontinental by the International Circle of Economic and Political Studies. The authorities said his presence would be a threat to public order.

According to a local source, 200-250 guests were invited to the dinner. This is the second time that Le Pen was barred from speaking in Geneva. The first time was in January 1986, when he was invited by Swiss Television.

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